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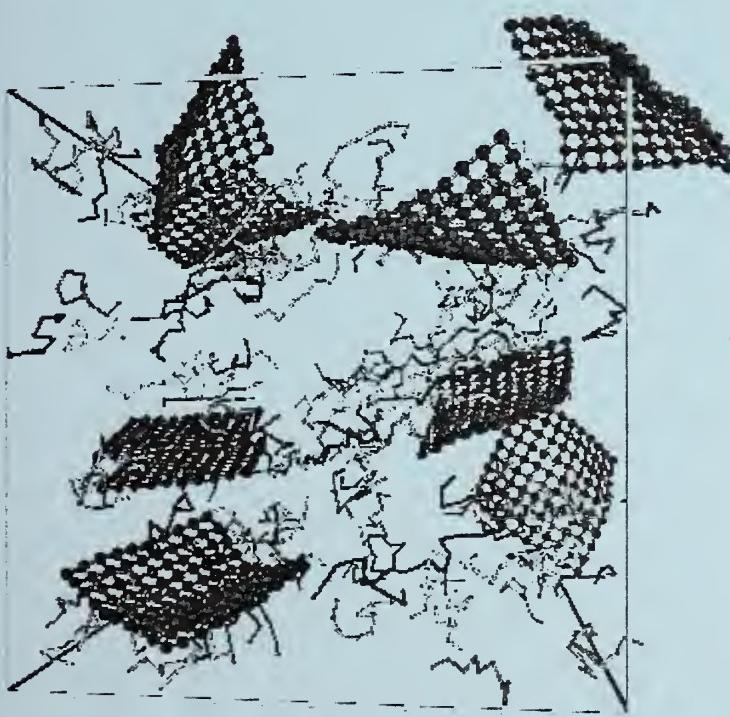
REFERENCE

NISTIR 6893

## Bridging the Gap between Structure and Properties in Nano-Particle Filled Polymers

**Erik Hobbie  
Jack Douglas  
Francis Starr  
Charles Han**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Technology Administration  
National Institute of Standards  
and Technology  
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8910



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**NIST**

**National Institute of Standards  
and Technology**  
Technology Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce



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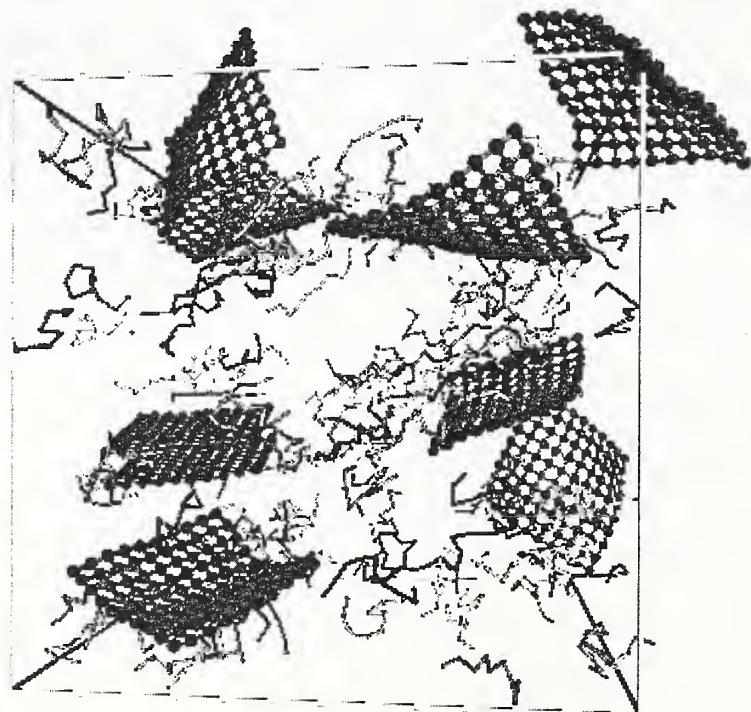


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Donald L. Evans, Secretary  
TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATION  
Phillip J. Bond, Under Secretary for Technology  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS  
AND TECHNOLOGY  
Arden L. Bement, Jr., Director

# **Bridging the Gap Between Structure and Properties in Nanoparticle-Filled Polymers**

May 29-30, 2002

National Institute of Standards and Technology  
Gaithersburg, MD



Organizers: Erik Hobbie  
Jack Douglas  
Francis Starr  
Charles Han

# I. Nanotechnology Workshop

On May 29-30 of 2002, a workshop on polymer nanocomposites was held at NIST in Gaithersburg, Maryland. The workshop was entitled **Bridging the Gap Between Structure and Properties in Nanoparticle-Filled Polymers** and focused primarily on the interrelation between particle dispersion and the properties of polymers filled with clay and nanotube fillers. The purpose of the workshop was to identify research topics for NIST research and to initiate research collaboration with industrial and academic researchers in this important technological area. The workshop participants included a diverse mix of industrial, government and academic researchers.

This document reproduces the slides presented by the speakers of this workshop along with a few introductory remarks about each contribution. We would like to thank the contributors for providing the presentations that made the workshop a success.

- 1) Douglas Hunter, “**The Effect of Extruder Processing on the Extent of Exfoliation in Clay-Polymer Nanocomposites**”
- 2) Jeff Gilman, “**Flame Retardant Polymer-Clay Nanocomposites**”
- 3) Ramanan Krishnamoorti, “**Melt Rheology of Polymer Nanocomposites**”
- 4) Satish Kumar, “**Processing, Structure, and Properties of Nano-Composite Fibers and Films**”
- 5) Alex Morgan, “**Polypropylene Nanocomposites: Clay Organic Treatment Concentration Effects on Mechanical Properties, Flammability Properties and Clay Dispersion**”

- 6) Atsushi Takahara, “**Structure and Mechanical Properties of Natural Inorganic Nanofiller / Polymer Hybrid**”
- 7) R. A. Vaia, “**Impact and Control of Ultrastructure (Meso) in Polymer Nanocomposites**”
- 8) Francis W. Starr, “**Probing Nanocomposite Structure and Properties Using Computer Simulations**”
- 9) Juan J. de Pablo, “**Molecular Simulation and Characterization of Ultrathin Films and Nanoscopic Polymeric Structures: Departures from Bulk Behavior**”
- 10) Guoqiang Qian, “**Applications of Plastic Nanocomposites**”
- 11) Eric A. Grulke, “**Production, Dispersion and Applications of Multiwalled Carbon Nanotubes**”
- 12) Ken McElrath and Tom Tiano, “**Achieving Conductive Polycarbonate with Single Wall Carbon Nanotubes**”

## **II. U.S. Government and Nanotechnology**

Nanotechnology holds the promise to dramatically change many aspects of the world in which we live. The range and scope of the potential economic and societal benefits from nanotechnologies is so staggering it has been called the “Next Industrial Revolution”. Recognizing the large potential for nanotechnologies, the FY2001 Federal Budget included support for a major new initiative on nanotechnology. The National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI) was established by the U.S. Government to promote long-term nanoscale research and development leading to potential breakthroughs in areas ranging from materials and manufacturing to biotechnology and agriculture to national security and Defense, and many others. The NNI creates a research infrastructure by coordinating activities such as fundamental research, Grand Challenges (which will be described later), and centers and networks of excellence, activities that are all potentially high payoff and broadly enabling. The NNI evolved from publications authored by the Interagency Working Group on Nanoscience, Engineering and Technology (IWGN), and is currently supported and monitored by the IWGN's successor, the Subcommittee on Nanoscale Science, Engineering, and Technology (NSET). In FY 2001, the total investment by the NSET agencies in nanotechnology was estimated to be \$422million, of which NIST has invested approximately \$13.5 million.

The NNI exemplifies the government's critical role in promoting the development of new science and technology. For clarity's sake, we should first consider what types of things we define as nanotechnology. Ask any scientist, engineer, or layperson for a definition of nanotechnology, and you will most likely receive a very different answer. In many cases, it is

considered hard to define; like good art, most people "know it when they see it" but have difficulty explaining it in general. Thus, we use the definition of nanotechnology given by the NSET:

*Nanotechnology is defined as the ability to work at the atomic, molecular or macromolecular levels, in the length scale of approximately 1 - 100 nm range, in order to create, manipulate and use structures, devices and systems that have novel properties and functions because of the small size. The novel and differentiating properties and functions are developed at a critical length scale of matter typically under 100 nm. Nanotechnology includes integration of nanoscale structures into larger material components, systems and architectures that are used in most industries, health care systems, environment and national security. Within these larger scale devices, the control and construction of the devices remains at the nanoscale. In some particular cases, the critical length scale for novel properties and phenomena may be under 1nm (e.g., manipulation of atoms at ~0.1nm) or be larger than 100nm (e.g., nanoparticle reinforced polymers have the unique feature at ~200/300nm as a function of the local bridges or bonds between the nanoparticles and the polymer).*

It is critical that the Federal government is involved at this stage in the development of nanotechnology, since "the necessary fundamental nanotechnology research and development is too broad, complex, expensive, long-term, and risky for industry to undertake." Industry is unable to fund or is under-funding critical areas of long-term fundamental research and development and is not developing the necessary nanoscience technologies needed to realize nanotechnology's potential.

In supporting the NNI, the participating agencies fund the NNI recommended R&D priorities as a function of their mission, contingent on

available resources. The stated goals of the NSET involve developing a...  
*...coherent approach for funding the critical areas of nanoscience and engineering, establishing a balanced and flexible infrastructure, educating and training the necessary workforce, and promoting partnerships to ensure that these collective research activities provide a sound and balanced national research portfolio. By facilitating coordination and collaboration among agencies, the NNI will maximize the productivity and utility of the Federal government's investment in nanotechnology and avoid unnecessary duplication of efforts.*



### **III. Nanotechnology and NIST Polymers Division**

Exfoliated clay and carbon nanotube materials can be considered to be two-dimensional polymeric materials, and the Polymers Division at NIST is in a good position to provide essential characterization information and to study the essential physics of this important class of materials, building on former work on conventional polymeric materials.

Similarly to high molecular weight blends, it is difficult to form stable dispersions of clay and nanotubes in polymer matrices. Dispersion is usually a matter of degree and this has a tremendous impact on the properties of polymeric materials filled with these additives. These materials raise many measurement challenges since the dimensions of these particles bridge molecular and colloidal particle scales so that characterization requires an array of techniques. Characterization is also made difficult by the complexity of the materials that depend on their source and processing history. It is clearly important to identify model systems allowing reproducible and meaningful measurement and measurement methods addressing more general questions (dispersion, interparticle interaction) and processes (phase separation, particle clustering). Simulation must play an important role in understanding these systems and the multi-scale physics involved. The workshop was intended to help focus these efforts.



## **IV. Workshop Presentations**

### **1) Douglas Hunter, “The Effect of Extruder Processing on the Extent of Exfoliation in Clay-Polymer Nanocomposites” [\[PowerPoint\]](#) [\[PDF\]](#)**

Dr. Hunter emphasized the importance of process conditions on the properties of exfoliated clay materials. Several screw extruders were investigated and the influence of residence time and position of the clay-polymer extrudate was considered in relation to the extent of clay exfoliation. The processing history and screw geometry was shown to have a pronounced effect on the state of dispersion and a hierarchical dispersion model was introduced to rationalize these results. The importance of combining chemical treatment with processing to achieve good dispersion was emphasized. High shear intensity was found to be not necessarily beneficial for dispersion, but long residence times in the extruder normally has a positive effect on the relative dispersion. One of the general philosophical questions raised by this talk is the need for a better understanding of the role of shear on mixing processes and clustering in colloidal systems.

## Extruder Processing of Nanocomposites - Agenda

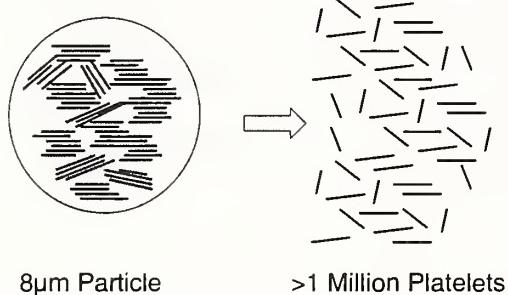
- Overview of Presentation given at ANTEC
- University of Akron, Screw Pulling Results
- MXD6: Effect of Die
- Die study with PP

*Note: Results Based on XRD, TEM. Properties Important to Market Applications not Determined*

## Processing Nanocomposites Critical objectives of the presentation

- Process parameters as important as the choice of clay.
- Online monitoring of exfoliation can be deceptive – consideration needs to be given to the “die” effect.

## The Processing Challenge



## Nanocomposite Processing Antec

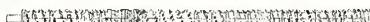
- Objective: establish the significance of processing.
- Multiple extruders and screw configurations.
- PA6 with Cloisite 15A, not exfoliate and Cloisite 30B, exfoliate.

## Single and Co Rotating Screws

Killion Single Screw



Japan Steel Works Co Rotating Twin Screw

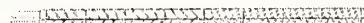


Low Shear



Medium Shear

## Leistritz Counter Rotating Intermeshing



Low Shear

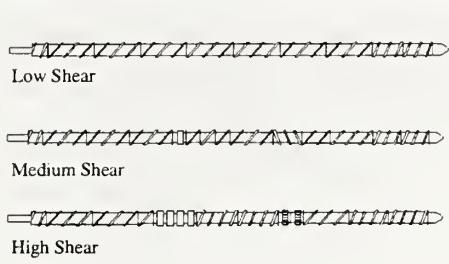


Medium Shear

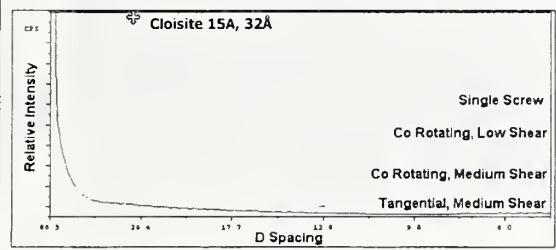


High Shear

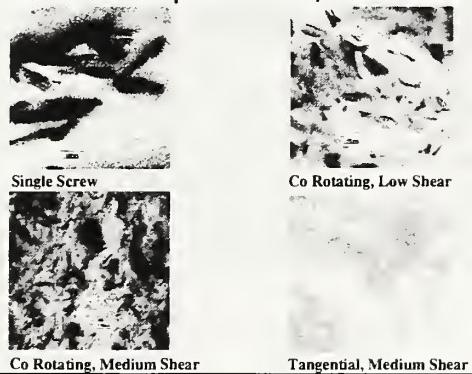
## Leistritz Counter Rotating Non-Intermeshing



## XRD Examples: 15A/PA6



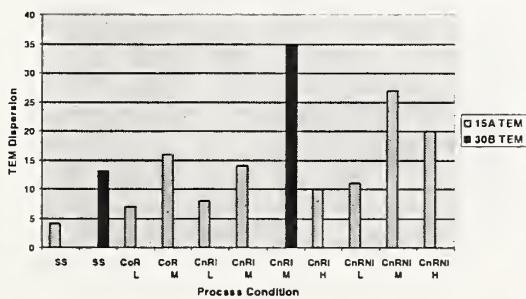
## TEM Examples: 15A/PA6



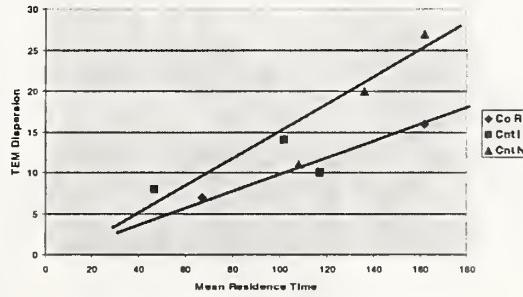
## TEM Dispersion

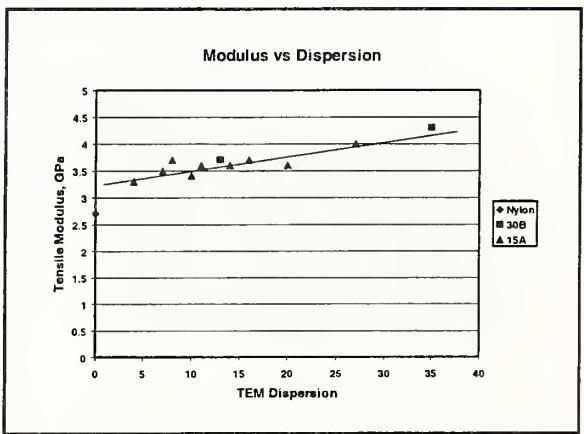
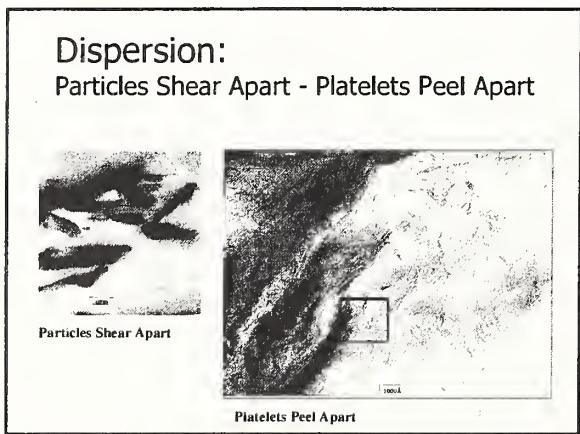
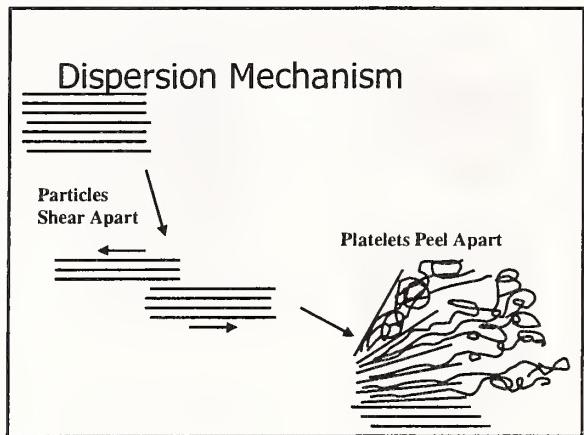
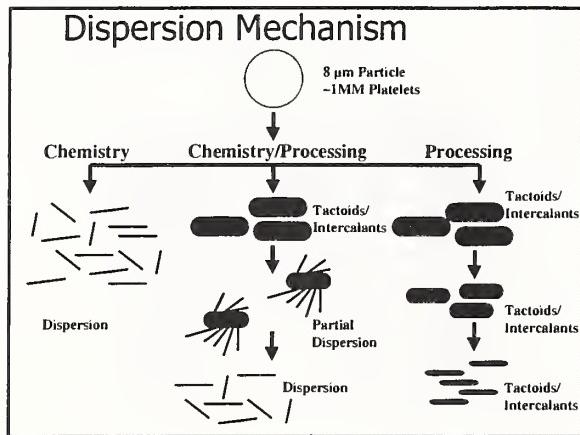
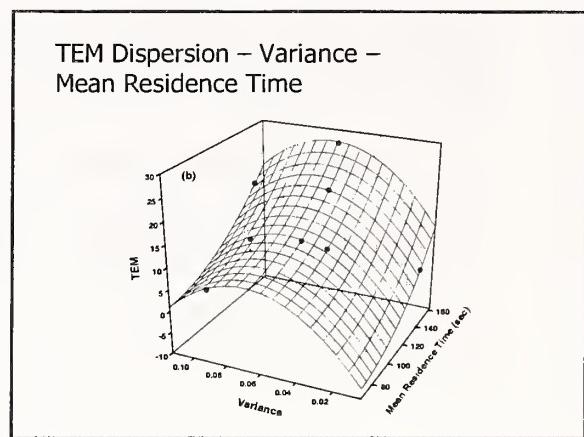
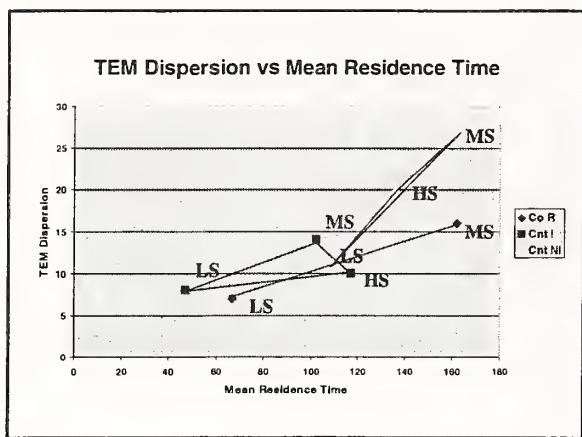


## TEM Dispersion vs Processing



## TEM Dispersion vs Mean Residence Time





## Conclusions

- To Optimize Dispersion: Clay Treatment & Processing
- Longer Residence Time Important, Not only Variable
- Dispersion not Simply a Function of Shear Intensity
- Particles Shear Apart
- Platelets Peel Apart to Disperse

## Exfoliation not limited to extruder processing

- ◆ Buss Kneader
- ◆ Brabender
- ◆ Banbury
- ◆ 2 Roll mill

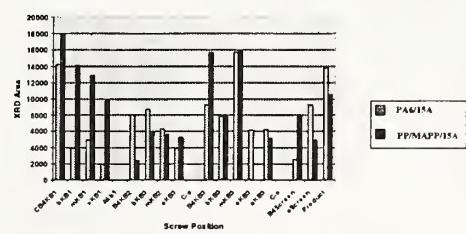


2 Roll Mill      Extruder

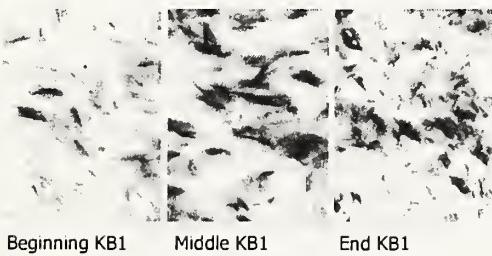
## Screw Pulling University of Akron

- Nanocomposites PA6/15A & PP/MAPP/15A
- Vary Screw Design
- Vary Process Conditions

Different Resin, JSW 5kg/hr/200rpm Alloy



## TEM Micrographs Pull Screw PA6-Cloisite 15A -JSW Alloy



Beginning KB1      Middle KB1      End KB1

## TEM Micrographs Pull Screw PA6-Cloisite 15A -JSW Alloy



Before Die      Product

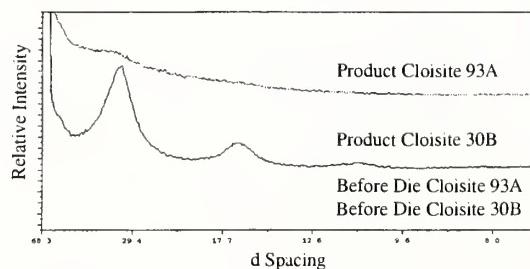
## Conclusions

- Screw Design Important
- Process Conditions Important
- Possible to have the Optimum Design with Only Part of Screw
- What is the die effect?

## Effect of Die: MXD6 Study

- Two Organoclays, Cloisites 30B and 93A
- Clay Fed Downstream
- Multi-Kneading Block Screw
- Past Experience, Screw Should Work

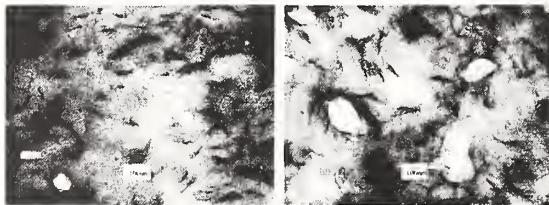
## MXD6 Nanocomposite XRD



## TEM MXD6 Nanocomposite



## TEM MXD6 Nanocomposite



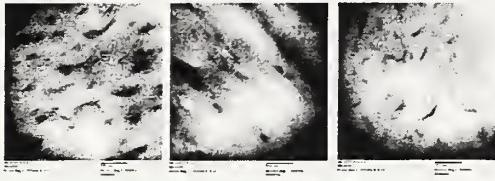
Cloisite 93A Before Die

Cloisite 93A Product

## Conclusions

- Nanocomposite Sheared In Die
- Propose Results Controlled by Resin/Clay Treatment Compatibility
- Less Compatible Nanocomposite, Platelets Align - See in XRD and TEM
- *Die Hole Size Problem?*
- Possible Solution: Larger Die Hole

## Vary the Die Hole Diameter PP/MA-g-PP/Cloisite 20A



6 hole 1mm

4 hole 2.1 mm

no die plate

## Extruder Monitoring Exfoliation

- Assume slip stream to analysis tool
- Consider effect of shear in lines and analytical tool
- Platelet alignment during analysis alter results of the analysis

2) Jeff Gilman, “**Flame Retardant Polymer-Clay Nanocomposites**”

[\[PowerPoint\]](#) [\[PDF\]](#)

Dr. Gilman first stressed the human cost of home fires and the alternatives that exist for making flame retardant polymers. The challenge was indicated to be the development of environmentally friendly and economical approaches to reduce flammability and the simultaneous improvement of the mechanical properties of the polymer-based materials. Clay nanocomposites were shown to be promising as fire suppressant agents due to the clay reinforcement of the char formed in the course of burning. Degradation issues of these materials under processing conditions were discussed and the advantages of combinatoric flammability tests were discussed in connection with optimizing and understanding the complex parameter space governing these complex materials.



**Flame retardant  
Polymer Clay Nanocomposites**

Jeffrey W. Gilman  
Group Leader  
Materials and Products Group  
Fire Science Division

**NIST Workshop  
on Polymer Nanocomposites  
and Multiphase Materials**

NIST  
National Institute of Standards and Technology

## Home Fires

- 4,000 Deaths/Year in US Home Fires - highest of Developed Countries
- 37 % from Upholstered Furniture Mattress and Bedding

Fire Statistics: National Fire Protection Assoc 1996

Also: carpet, wire and cable, aircraft, insulation, automotive, consumer electronics....

3 minutes to flashover!

NIST Bunk bed Study: [www.fire.nist.gov](http://www.fire.nist.gov)

### General Flame Retardant Approaches for Polymers

**I- Gas Phase Flame Retardants**

- Reduce Heat of Combustion ( $\Delta H_f$ ) resulting in incomplete combustion.
- Inherent Drawbacks: Negative Public Perception!

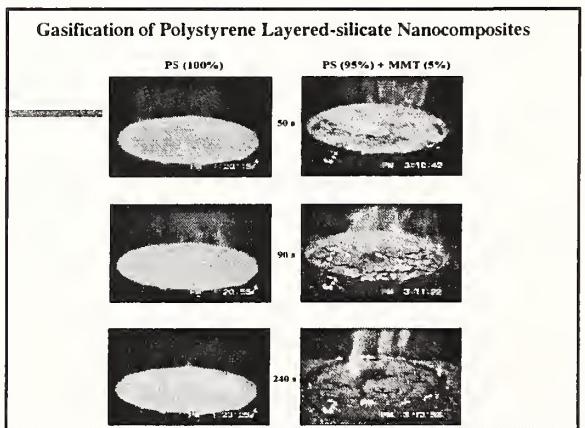
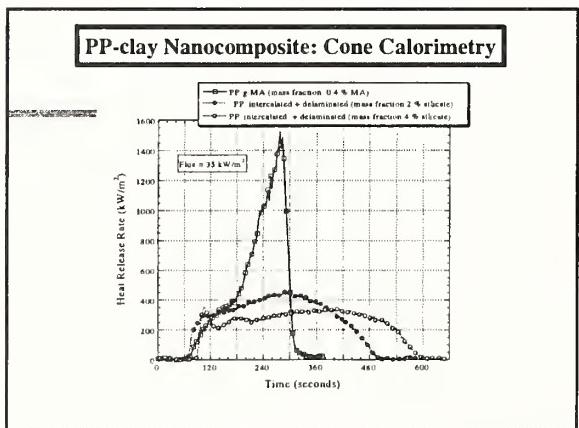
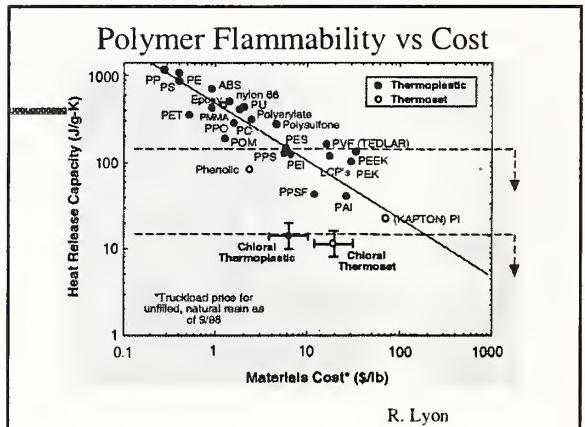
**II- Endothermic Flame Retardants**

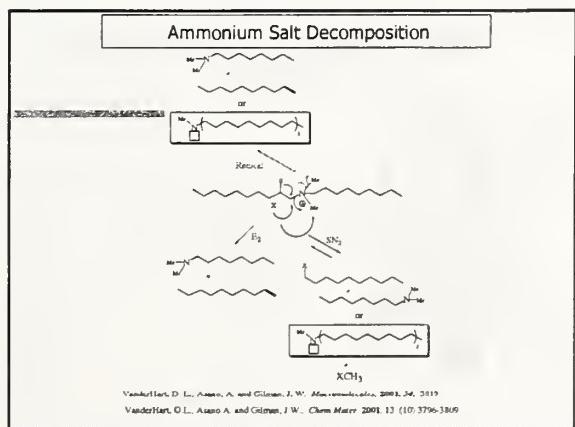
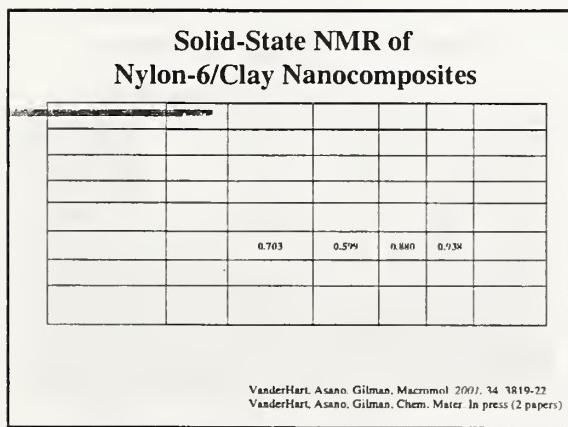
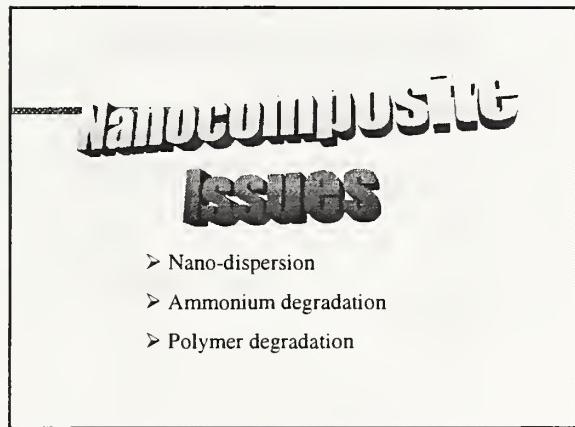
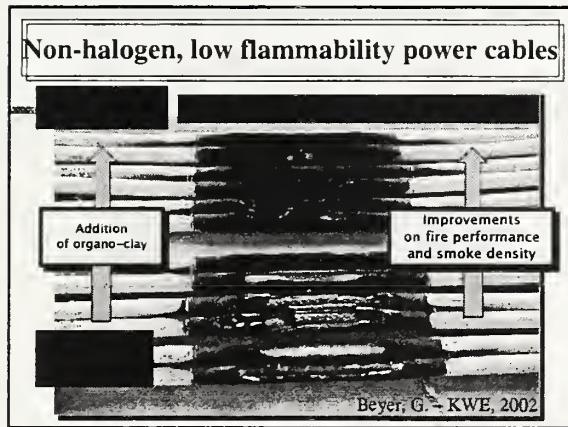
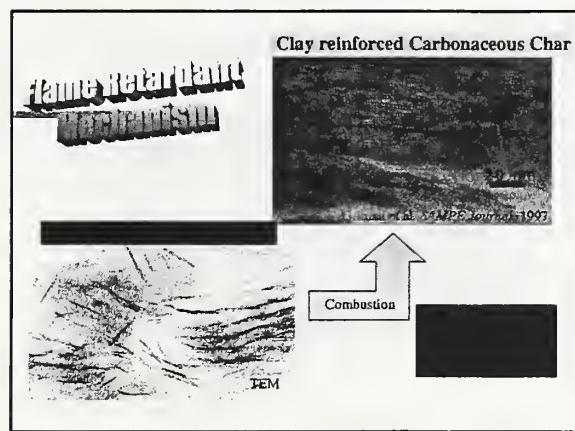
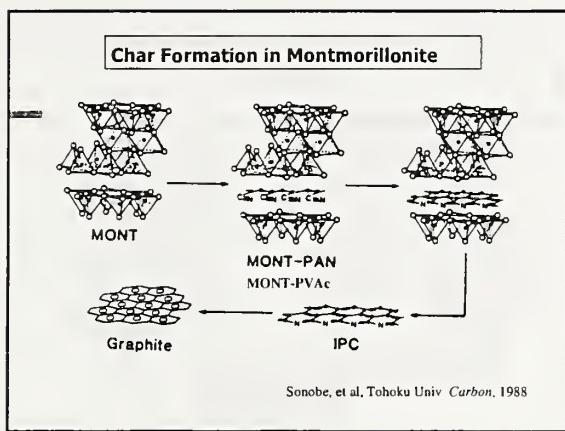
- Function in Gas Phase and Condensed Phase
- Via endothermic release of  $H_2O$ , polymer cooled and gas phase diluted
- Inherent Drawback: High loadings (30-50%) degrade mechanical properties.

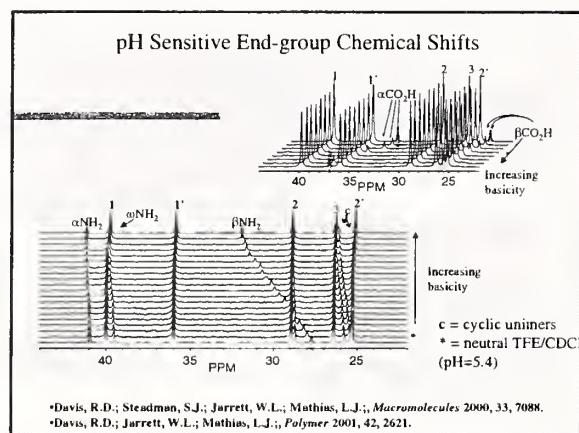
**III- Char Forming Flame Retardants**

- Operate in Condensed Phase
- Provides thermal insulation for underlying polymer **and** a mass transport barrier, preventing or delaying escape of fuel into the gas phase.

Goal: develop environmentally friendly approaches to reduce flammability **and** improve physical properties







**Nylon 6 and Nylon 6/MMT**

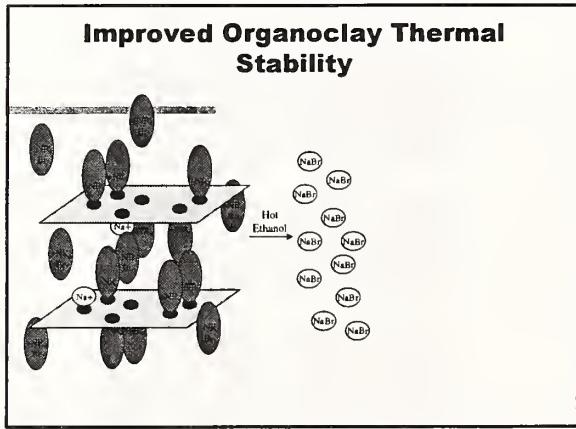
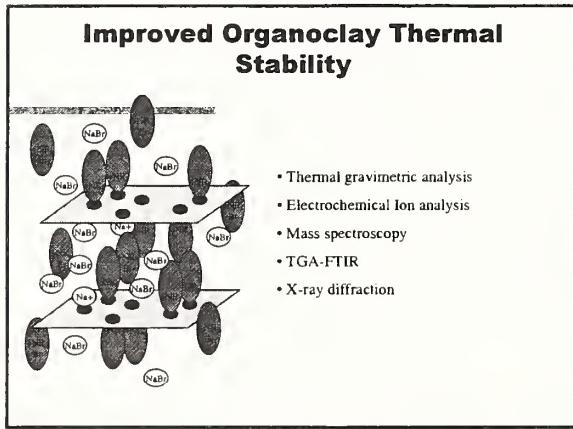
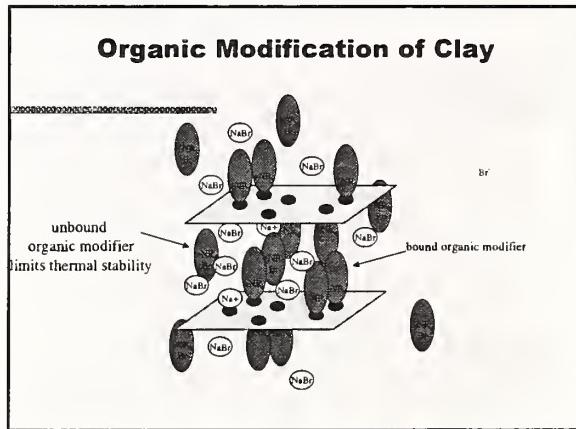
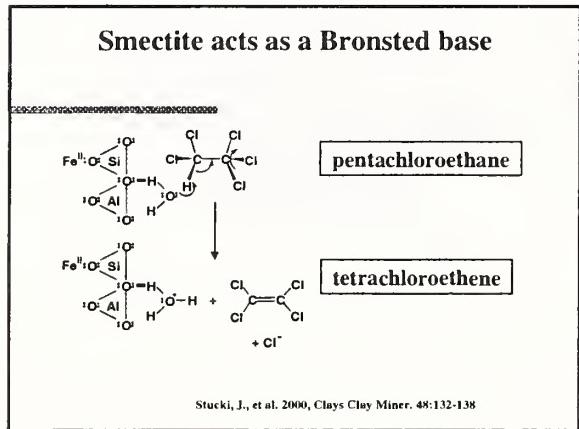
Injection molding at 300 °C causes polymer degradation

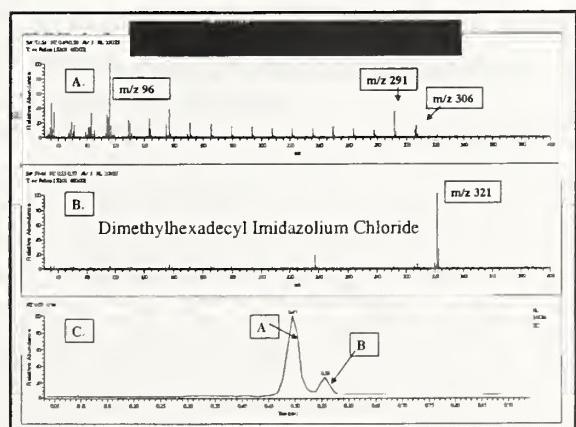
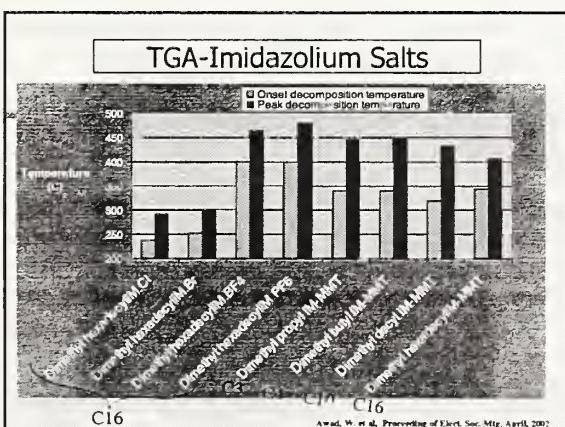
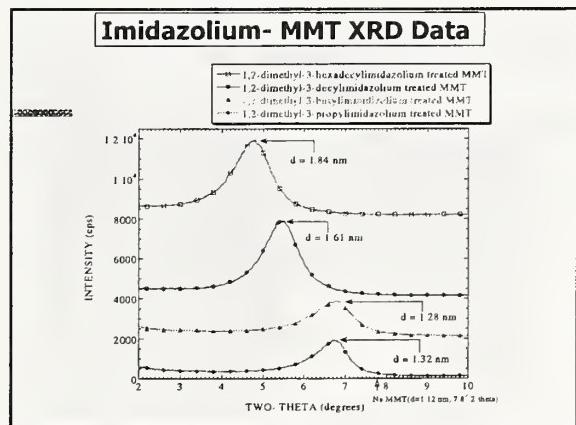
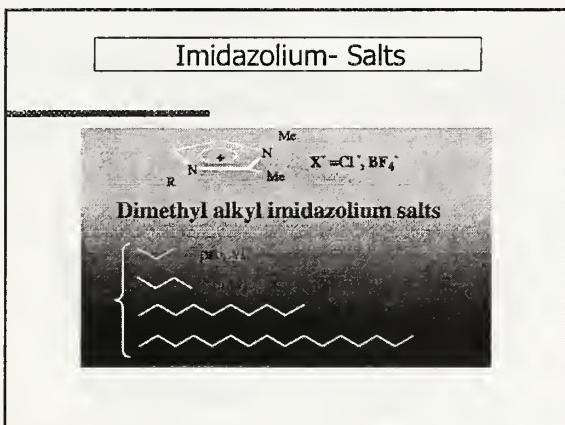
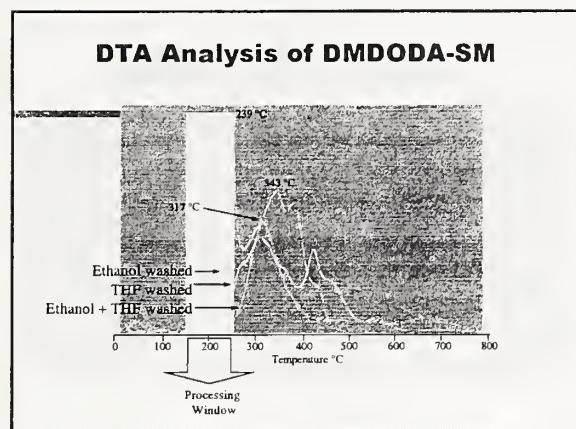
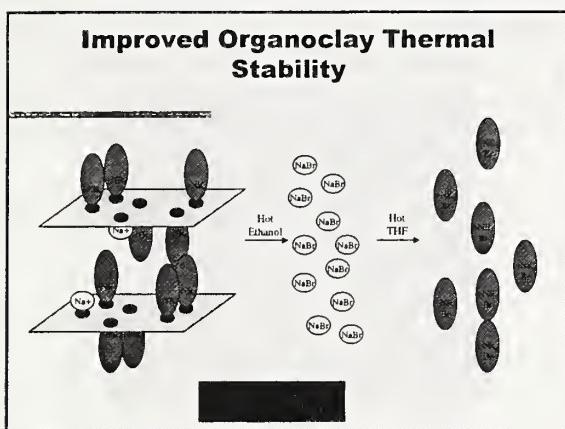
Polymer	$M_n$ (g/mole)	% v. Copolylactam*	End-groups*		
			% Amine	% Acid	% $\Delta$
PA-6 as received	13622 ± 1449	0.00	0.83	0.83	0.00
PA-6 injection molded	12311 ± 1489	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.00
Nanocomposite as received	13672 ± 1504	0.19	0.83	0.83	0.00
Nanocomposite injection molded	6321 ± 334	3.80	0.83	1.79	53.4

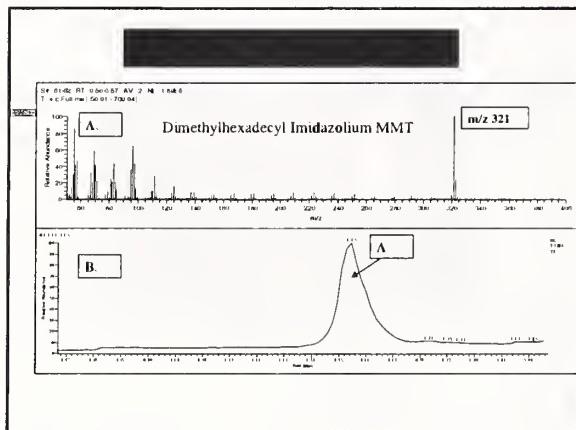
\*uncertainty (2σ) ± 0.1%

What is the affect on properties?

Davis, R., Gilman, J., *Polym. Deg & Stab*, submitted.







## Imidazolium- MMT vs Ammonium-MMT TGA Data

## **Imidazolium- MMT/ Nanocomposites**



**DMHDIM-MMT in PA-6**    **DMHDIM-MMT in PS**  
 Gilman, et al, *Chem. Mater.* In press

Gillman, et al., Chem. Mater. 11, 111

## PET Homo- and Copolymers

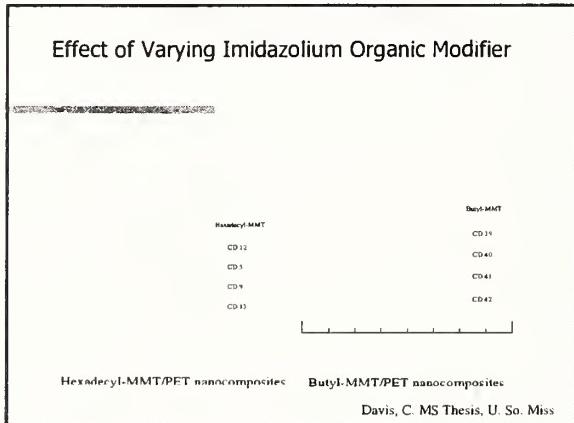
- PET
  - PET-5%-co-octanediol (PET-OD)
  - Flame Retardant PET (FR-PET)
    - commercial

**R=H, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>**

\*All PET and copolymers provided by KoSa

Davis, C. MS Thesis, U. So. Miss

## Effect of Varying Imidazolium Organic Modifier

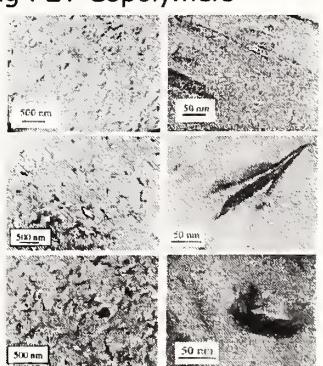


## Effect of Varying PET Copolymers

CD 12: hexadecyl-MMT/PET  
nanocomposite  
Screw speed 200 rpm

CD 10: hexadecyl-MMT/PET-OD  
nanocomposite  
Screw speed: 200 rpm  
Residence time: 2 minutes

CD 15. hexadecyl-MMT/FR-PET  
nanocomposite  
Screw speed. 200 rpm  
Residence time. 2 minutes



## GPC Data

Sample <sup>a</sup>	M <sub>n</sub>	M <sub>w</sub>	Polydispersity (M <sub>w</sub> /M <sub>n</sub> )
PET/OD (as received)	21,350	38,650	1.81
PET/OD (processed)	17,750	30,850	1.74
CD 6 (PET-OD nanocomposite)	17,000	30,000	1.76
PET (as received)	32,200	61,850	1.92
PET (processed)	21,100	39,150	1.86
CD 5 (PET nanocomposite)	20,600	38,350	1.86
FR PET (as received)	23,420	45,600	1.94
FR PET (processed)	16,950	31,100	1.83
CD 16 (FR PET nanocomposite)	15,050	27,750	1.84

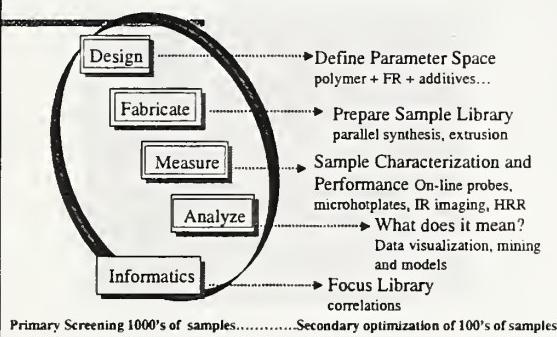
<sup>a</sup> All samples except as received were extruded at 260 °C, 5 min residence time and 4 rpm at 260 °C.

## Parameter Space for Polymer Nanocomposites

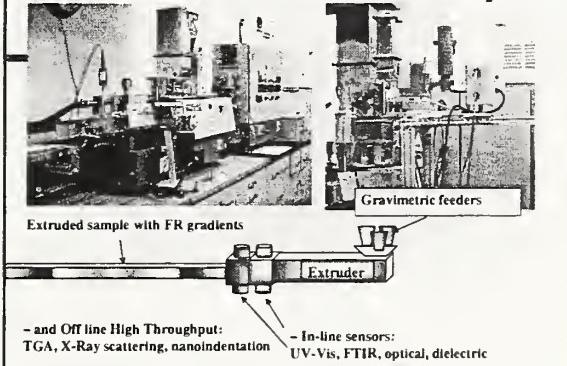
Polymer	Nano-additive	Cation	Organic Treatment	Processing Conditions	Other additives	Flame Retardant
PE	MMT	Na	Alkylammonium	Temperature	Stabilizers	Phosphate
PP	Mica	Ca	Imidazolium	Shear	Processing	Halogenated
PS	Hectorite	Cu	Crown Ether	Residence time	UV	Silicon Based
PA6	Saponite	Fe...	Silane		Antioxidant	
PC	Laponite		Carboxylate		Fillers	
PVC	Silica				Pigments	
PC	POSS					
PEO						
PMMA						
EVA						
- 10	- 5	- 5	- 10	- 10	- 10	- 10

(~ 10<sup>6</sup> Experiments)

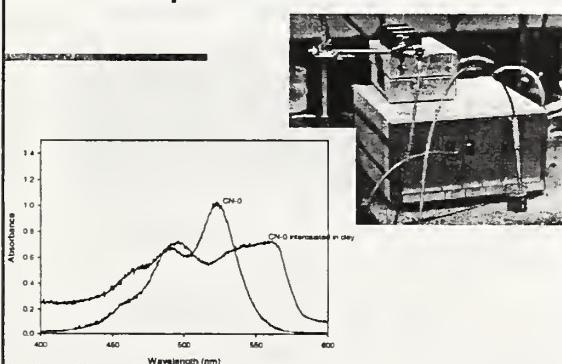
## High-Throughput Methods: The Approach



## Extrusion of Gradient Samples

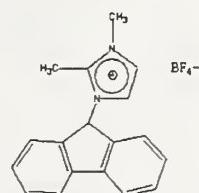


## Sample Characterization



## Fluorenyl-benzimidazolium Layered Silicate.

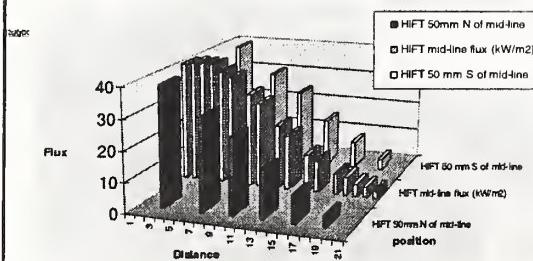
- The fluorenyl-benzimidazolium LS (FBIM-LS) will be evaluated as an intercalated sensor for monitoring exfoliation.



### Horizontal Ignition and Flammability Test



### Flux Gradient in HIFT



### Gradient Flux Test

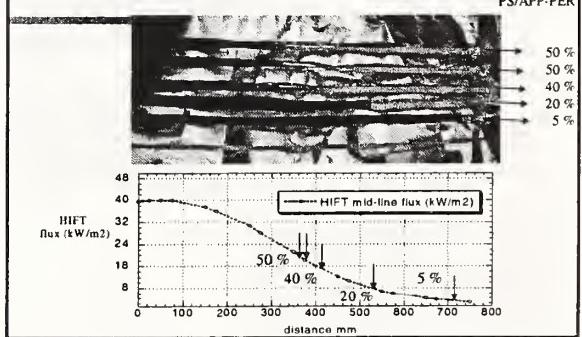


### HIFT



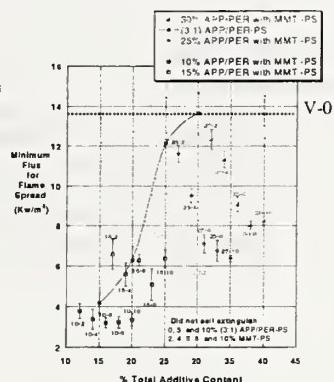
### HIFT

#### Different Critical Fluxes for Flame-Spread



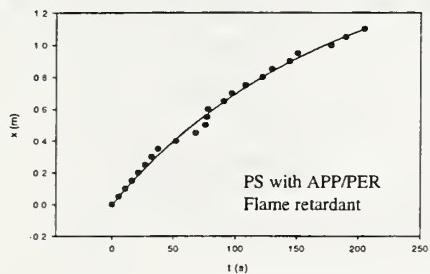
## Radiant Panel Test

Flame Spread  
 $\sim \text{HRR}^{2/3}/\text{Tign}$

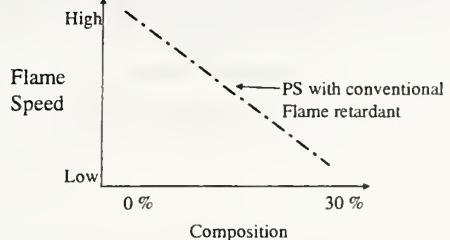


## High Throughput Test

Progression of Flame Front

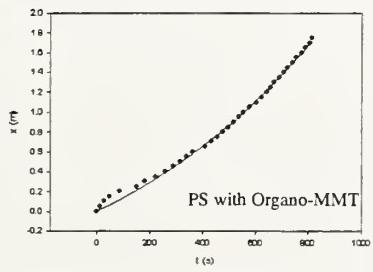


## High Throughput Test



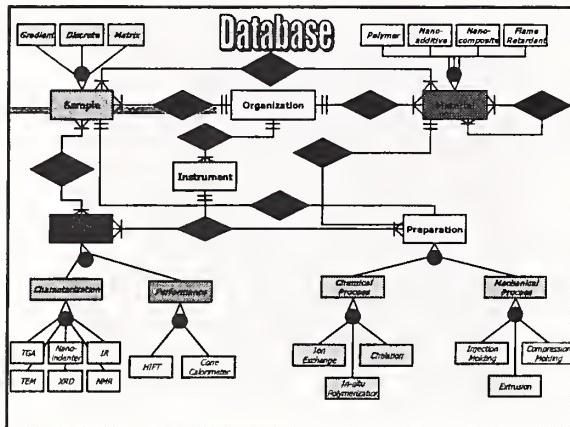
## High Throughput Test

Progression of the Flame Front with Time



## Conventional vs High Throughput Flammability Measurements

Method	Repeatability (+/-)	Data-to-day	Data Quality
UL 94 V	Poor (-10%)	2-3	Qualitative
CONE	Excellent (3-4)	2-3	Multiple parameters Highly Quantitative
HRR using gradient sample	Excellent (3-4)	50-100	Quantitative



## Conclusions

By combining nanotechnology with high-throughput experimentation, we can maximize the effect of additives and thereby provide industry with a powerful tool for the development of a new generation of high performance, low flammability materials.

**NIST Combinatorial Methods Center**

**High Throughput Methods for Flammability Research**

**Focused Project Consortium**

For information:  
[www.bfrl.nist.gov/focused\\_project](http://www.bfrl.nist.gov/focused_project)

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3) Ramanan Krishnamoorti, “**Melt Rheology of Polymer Nanocomposites**”  
[\[PowerPoint\]](#) [\[PDF\]](#)

(Talk presented by Charles Han due to family illness.)

This talk emphasized the effect of nanoparticles on the rheological properties of polymer melts. Melt measurements were contrasted for exfoliated (e.g., nylon-6) and intercalated clay-filled polymers. First, small amplitude linear dynamic measurements were considered for a clay-filled block copolymer system and gelation was observed with increasing filler concentration. This was attributed to the formation of a filler network structure, although scattering evidence is not yet available to support this hypothesis. Notably time-temperature superposition applied to the viscoelastic properties of these complex materials. Qualitatively similar behavior was found for intercalated and exfoliated clay-filled materials. Carbon nanotube (single wall) filled materials (polystyrene) were also considered and gelation (reinforcement) was similarly observed with increasing filler concentration-provided the nanotubes were functionalized to improve dispersion. At high concentration of clay, beyond the concentration of gelation, yield was observed and large amplitude oscillatory shear was shown to cause alignment followed by a slow recovery after the cessation of oscillation. An analogy to aging and rejuvenation effects in glass-forming liquids was discussed for these filled materials.

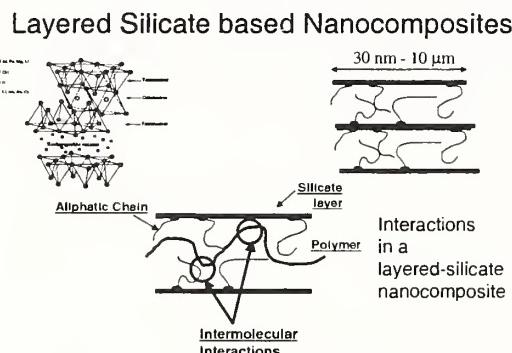


## Melt Rheology of Polymer Nanocomposite

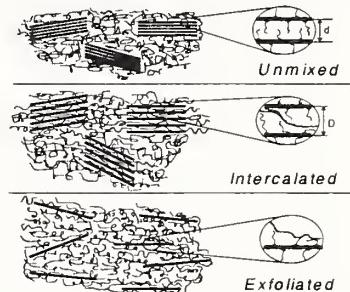
Ramanan Krishnamoorti  
Department of Chemical Engineering  
University of Houston

### Introduction

- Need to understand the effect of adding nanoparticles on the melt dynamics and processing.
- How does the dispersion of the nanoparticles affect the rheology of the composites?
- How does processing affect the dispersion (or equivalently rheology) and how does the system recover?



### Nanocomposite Classification

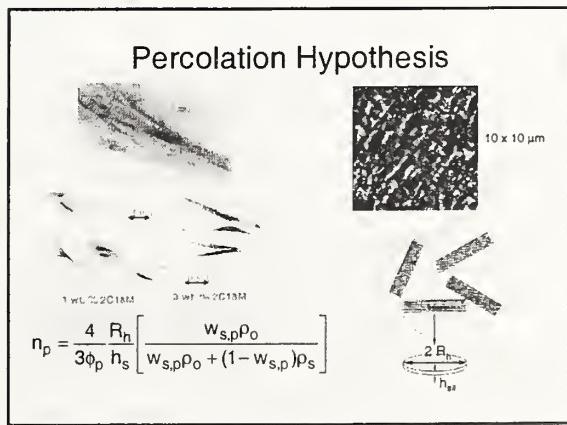
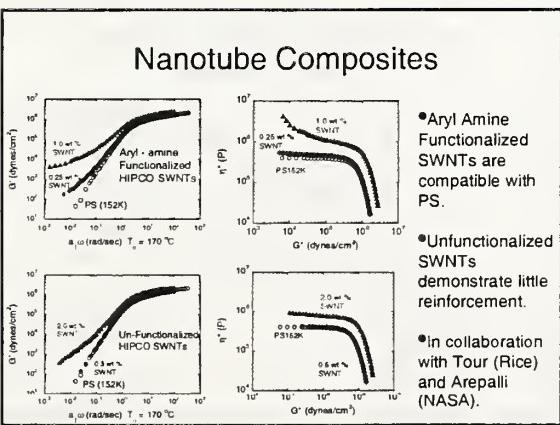
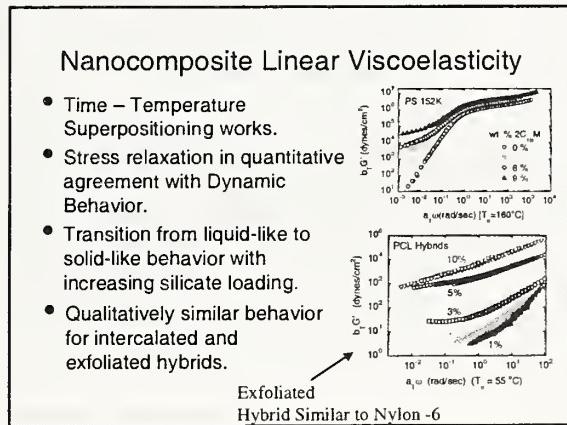
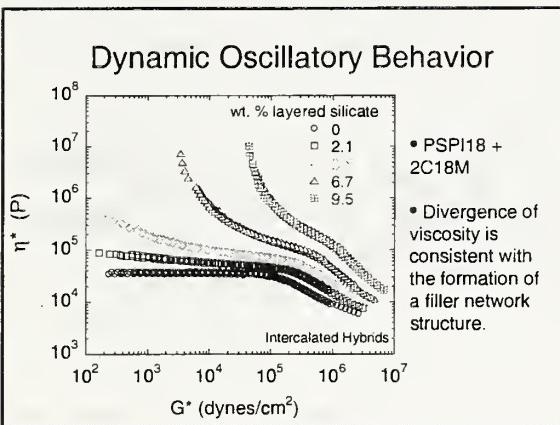
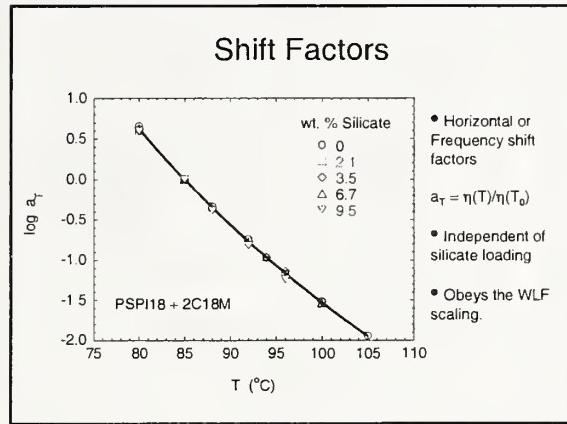
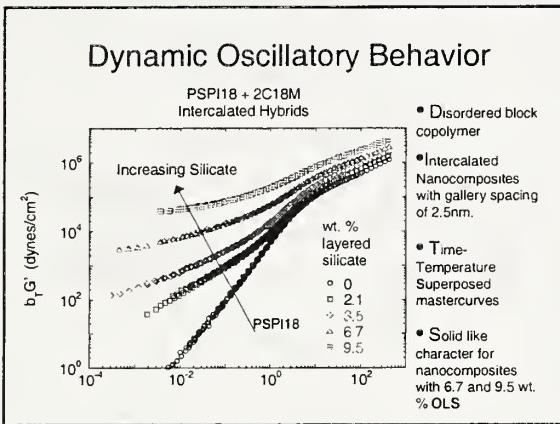


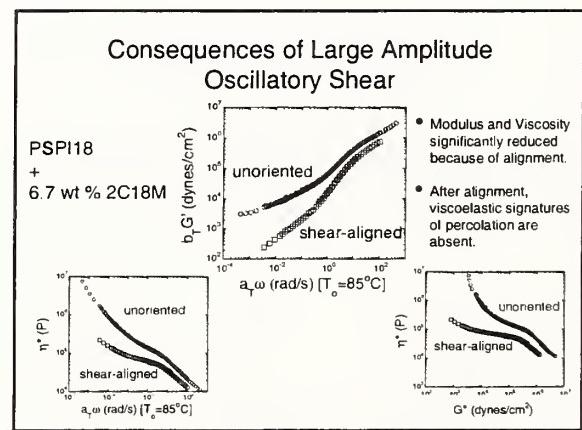
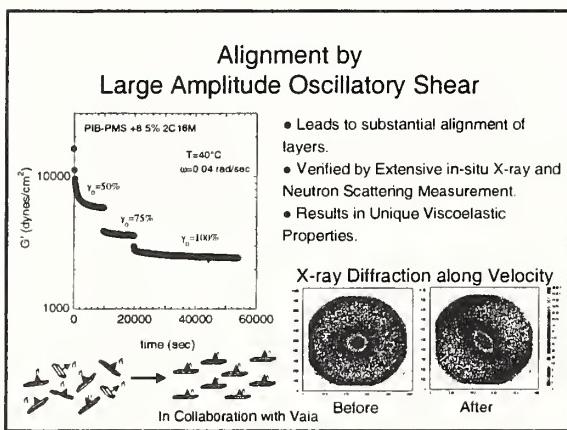
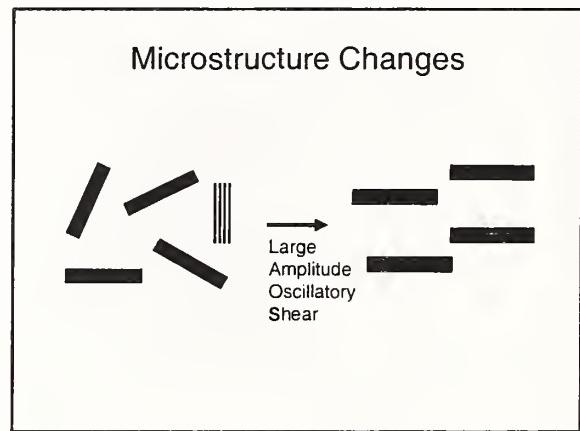
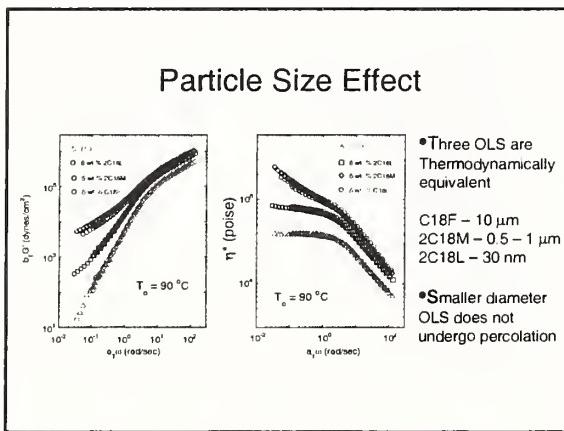
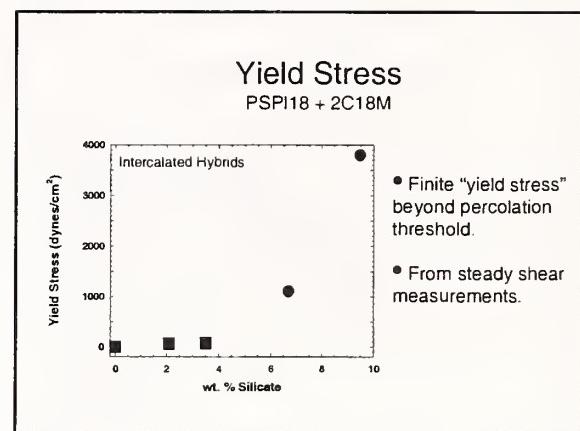
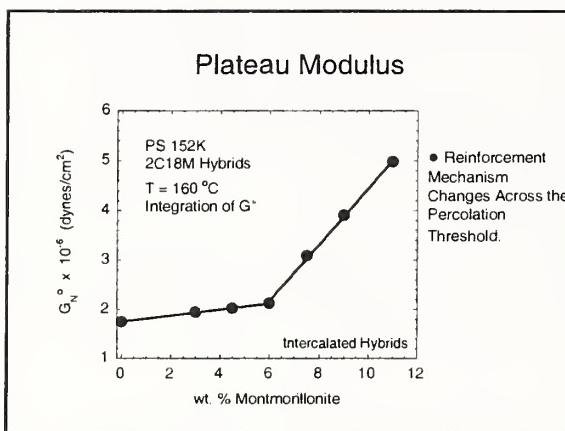
### Nanocomposites

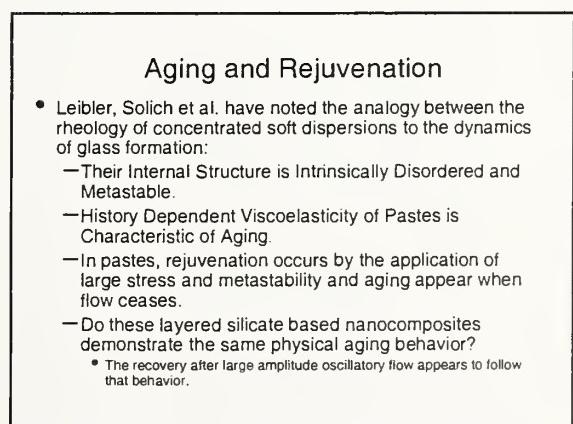
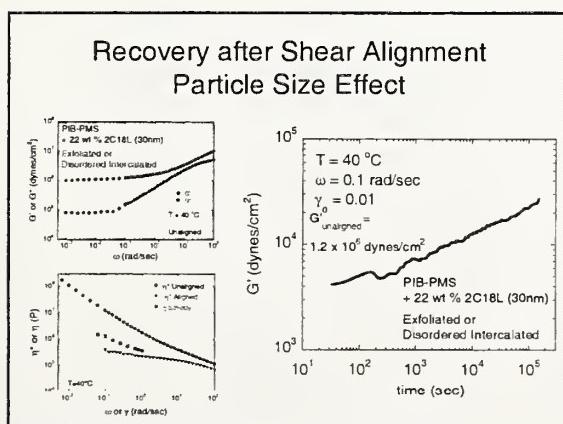
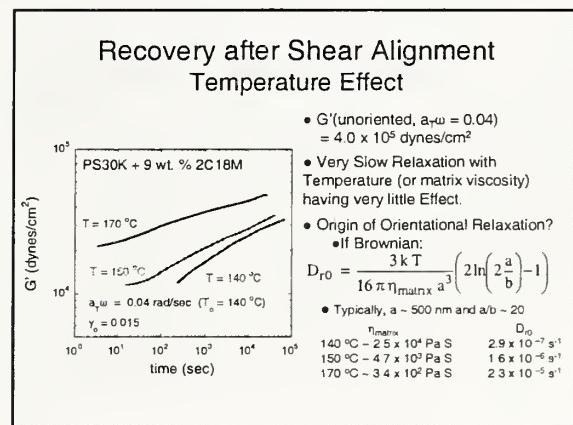
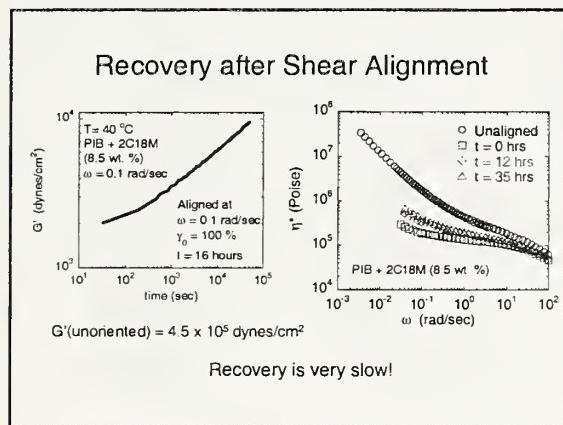
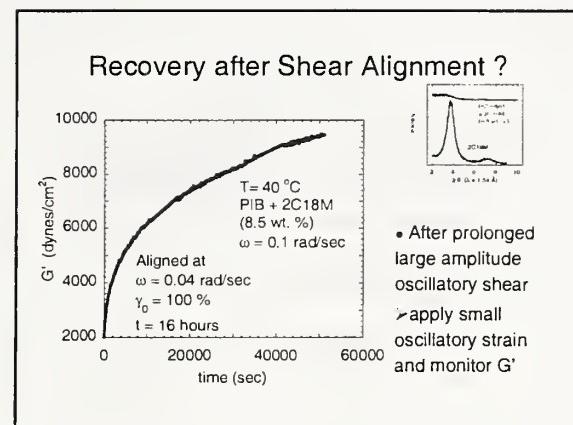
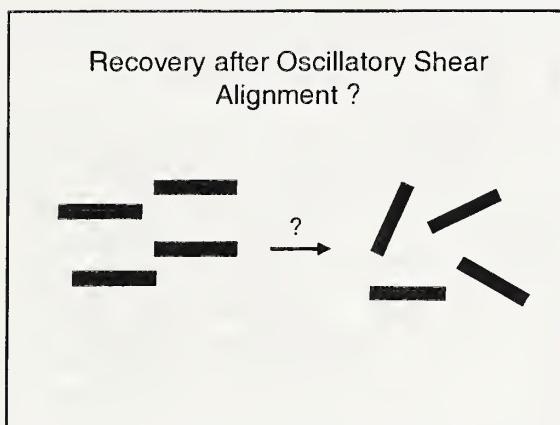
- Melt State Viscoelastic Measurements
- Exfoliated – Nylon 6 and Poly( $\epsilon$ -caprolactone)
- Intercalated – Polystyrene, Polyisobutylene based random copolymers, Polystyrene – Polyisoprene Diblock Copolymers, polycarbonate.
- Layered Silicates – Organically Modified
  - Montmorillonite (Natural Occurring)
  - Synthetic including Laponite, Fluorohectorite and Fluoromicas.

### Quiescent State Characterization of Nanocomposites

- Linear Dynamic Viscoelastic properties
  - Oscillatory Strain (small amplitude)

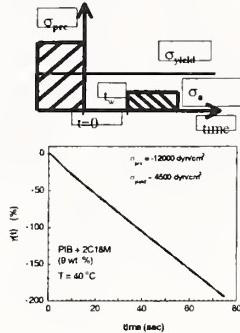






## Rejuvenation Tests

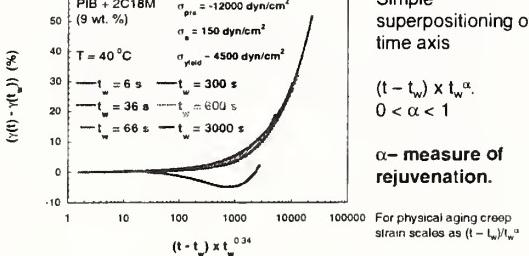
- Sample Preparation:
  - Apply  $\sigma_p > \sigma_y$  for  $t_p = 30 - 75$  sec
  - Erases all prior history
- At  $t = 0 \sigma = 0$
- And allowed to rest for a waiting time  $t_w$
- At  $t = t_w$ ,  $\sigma_a < \sigma_y$  to probe mechanical properties.



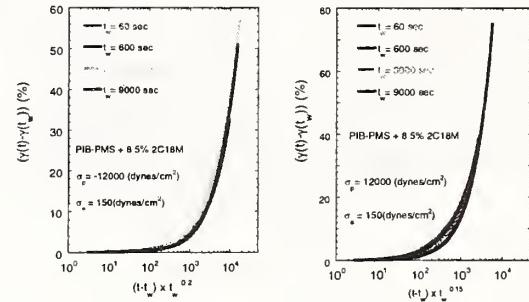
## Recovery Creep

- No Elastic Jump at start of constant stress.
- Plastic creep at long times.
- Onset of plastic creep earlier for longer waiting times!
- Contrary to Isotropic Filler based Pastes and Microgels.

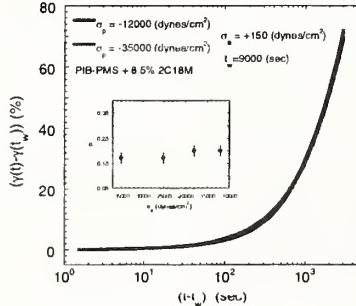
## Creep Superpositioning



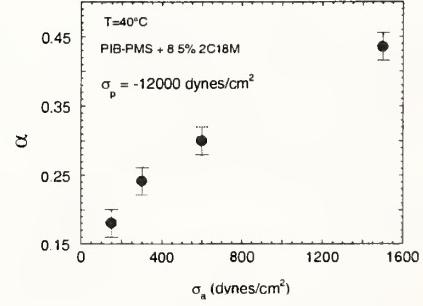
## Direction of Pre-Shearing



## Pre-Shearing Conditions

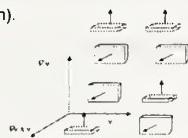


## $\alpha$ as a Rejuvenation Parameter



## Hypothesis for Unique Creep Recovery

- Large Constant Stress (& Steady Shear) do not lead to exclusively parallel orientation (layer normals in velocity gradient direction).
- Most Likely Scenario – Mixed Parallel + perpendicular orientation.(Preliminary scattering measurements support this hypothesis); Other possible hypothesis – Disaggregation and Reaggregation.
- The perpendicular aligned layers are unstable and disorient rapidly in the absence of flow.



## Conclusions

- Linear Viscoelasticity Sensitive to Mesoscale Structure.
- Recovery from Oscillatory Alignment appears to follow Physical Aging Like Kinetics.
- Recovery from Large Constant Stress – Unique and illustrative of the anisotropic layers influence on orientation.
  - No Dependence on Pre – Shear Magnitude and Direction.
  - Simple scaling of  $t_w$  allows for superposition of creep data
  - $\alpha$  appears to be a powerful parameter to capture the rejuvenation of the nanocomposites.

## Acknowledgements

- Koray Yurekli
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- Dr. Adriana Silva
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- Barbara Casanueva
- Hsien Wang
- Mun Fu Tse
- Jay Dias

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- Welch Foundation
- NIST
- ARL
- ExxonMobil Chemical Company



**4) Satish Kumar, “Processing, Structure, and Properties of Nano Composite Fibers and Films” [PowerPoint not available] [[PDF](#)]**

Dr. Kumar spent some time reviewing the field of nanocomposites as viewed from the perspective of a composite engineer. The geometrical structure of both single and multi-walled materials was reviewed and some measurements on melt-spinning these filler particles in polymer matrices were described. Some impressive improvements in compressive strength and tensile modulus of filled polypropylene and PMMA fibers were noted. Other notable observations include the observation of length changes in the single wall tubes upon blending and fiber spinning and the influence of the tubes on the size and rate of growth of polypropylene spherulites. It was also shown that highly conducting films could be formed from solutions of single wall nanotubes dispersed in Oleum.

## Processing, Structure, and Properties of Nano Composite Fibers and Films

Satish Kumar

School of Textile and Fiber Engineering  
Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta GA 30332  
satish.kumar@textiles.gatech.edu

## Nano Composites – Matrix Systems

### • In situ Polymerization

- PBO and PBZT

### • Melt Blending

- PP
- PET
- PMMA

## Nano Composites - Reinforcements

### • SWNT

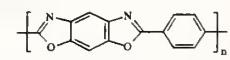
- Diameter ~ 1 nm, From Rice University, HiPCO process

### • MWNT or Carbon Nano Fibers

- (Diameter 50 – 200 nm, Applied Sciences Inc., OH)

## Carbon Nanotubes – Historical Perspective

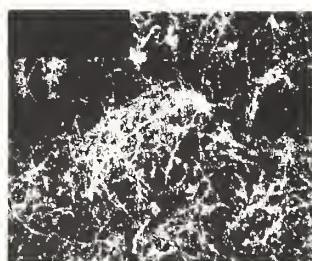
- Flexible Polymer – such as Polyethylene (1930s). High modulus PE fiber commercialized in 1980s.
- Rigid Polymers – such as PBZT and PBO (1980s). Zylon fiber commercialized in 1998.
- Carbon Nanotubes – 1990s. By comparison, synthesis, purification, and processing of these tubes is in its infancy.



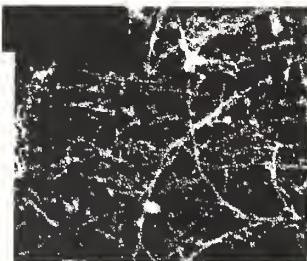
$$[\eta] = K M^a$$

Flexible polymer	0.5
Semi-flexible polymer	~1
Rigid polymer	1.8
SWNT	?

MWNT



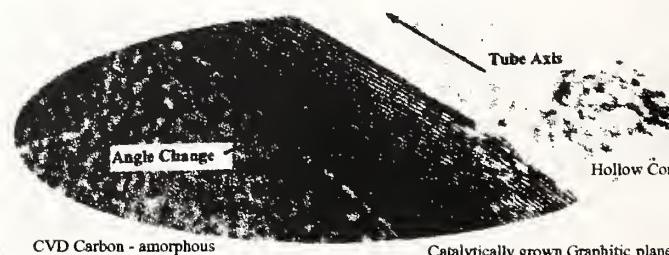
PR-21-PS



PR-24-PS

MWNT

TEM image of the wall of a carbon nanotube grown by ASI's Pyrograft™-III process.



Photograph from Applied Sciences Inc.

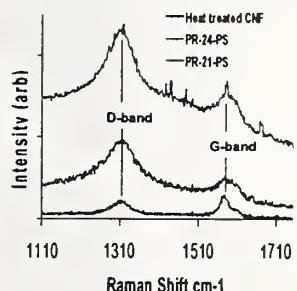
## MWNT

MWNT	Processing method	Oxygen content (wt%)	Sulfur content (wt%)
PR-21-PS	Pyrolytically stripped	1.2	0.3
PR-24-PS	Pyrolytically stripped	0.6	0.4
PR-24-HT	Graphitized at 3000 °C	0.3	0.0
PR-24-AG	As Grown Fiber	2.2	0.5
PR-24-PPO	Post processing oxidation of PR-24-AG	2.1	0.4
PR-24-ISO	In situ oxidation of PR-24-AG	2.2	1.1

CNFs were provided by Applied Sciences, Inc. (Cedarville, Ohio)

## Raman Spectra of MWNT

CNF	Raman intensity ratio of D to G band
PR-24-HT	0.7
PR-24-PS	1.6
PR-21-PS	3.1
PR-24-AG	1.5
PR-24-PPO	1.6
PR-24-ISO	1.8



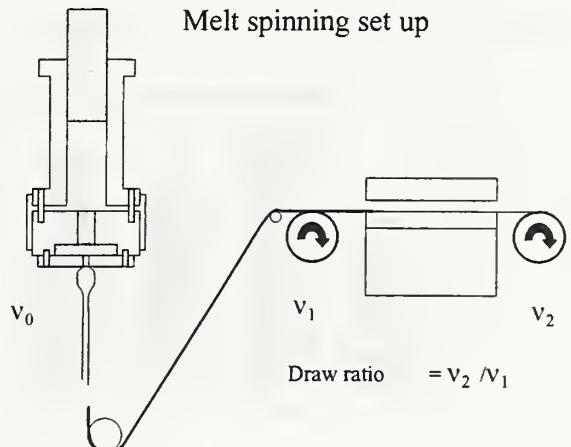
## Melt Blending and Fiber Processing

PET melt blended with 5 wt% carbon nano fibers

- Dry Mixing
  - Ball Milling
  - Hand Mixing
- Melt Compounding
  - Haake Twin-screw extruder TW-100
  - Haake mixer
- Spinning
  - 290°C, 250 µm spinneret
- Drawing
  - 120°C, draw ratio 4X or 6X
- Heat treatment
  - 150 °C at constant length

PP and PMMA melt blended at 240 °C

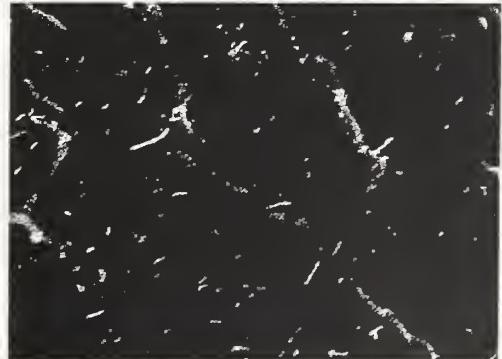
Melt spinning set up



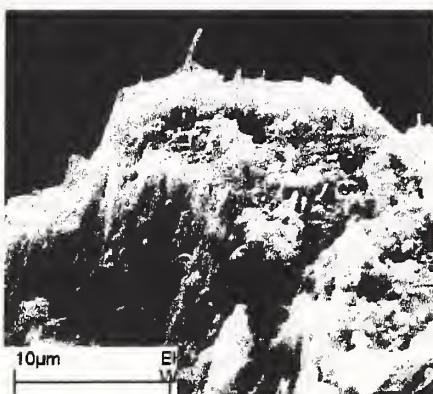
## PET/MWNT Composite Fibers



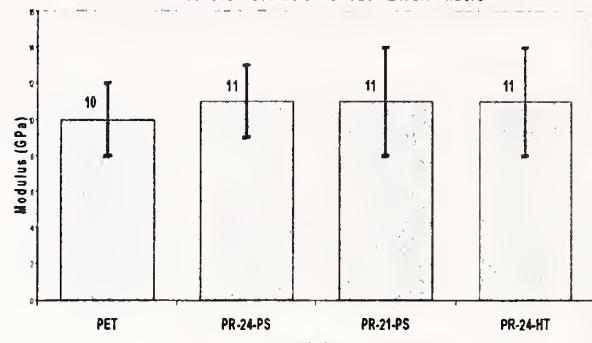
## PP/ MWNT Composite Fiber



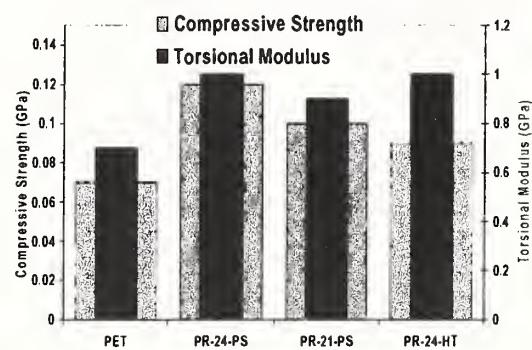
### PMMA/MWNT



### Tensile Modulus of Various PET/CNF fibers



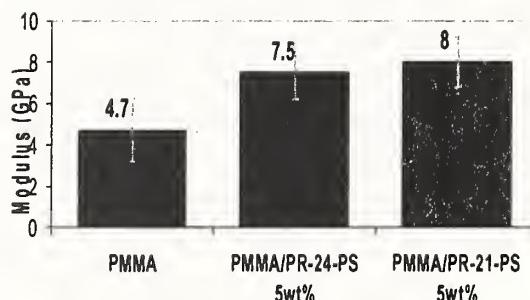
### PET/MWNT Composite Fibers



### PP/ MWNT Fibers

Sample	Tensile Strength (MPa)	Tensile Modulus (GPa)	Elongation to Break (%)	Compressive Strength (MPa)
PP-control	490 ± 60	4.6 ± 0.7	23 ± 5	25 ± 1
PP + 5 wt % VGNCF	570 ± 70	7.1 ± 0.9	16 ± 2	48 ± 10

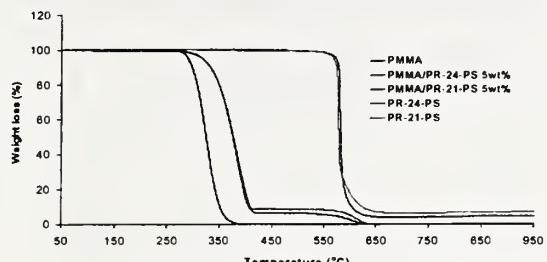
### PMMA/MWNT Composite Fibers



### PMMA/MWNT Composite Fiber

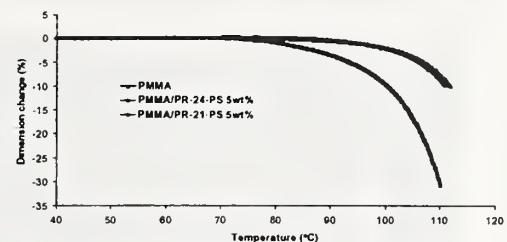
Sample	Tensile Modulus GPa	Tensile Strength GPa	Elongation at break (%)	Compressive Strength (MPa)
PMMA Control	4.7±1.5	0.20±0.04	16±3	28±2
PMMA/PR-24-PS 5wt%	7.5±1.3	0.16±0.03	10±3	66±20
PMMA/PR-21-PS 5wt%	8.0±1.2	0.17±0.04	10±6	73±11

### Thermal stability of PMMA/MWNT Composites



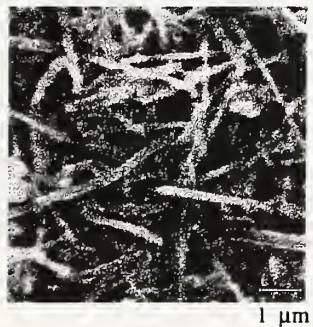
	PMMA	PMMA/PR-24-PS 5wt%	PMMA/PR-21-PS 5wt%
5% weight loss temperature (°C)	289	318	315

### Shrinkage Behavior - PMMA/MWNT Fibers

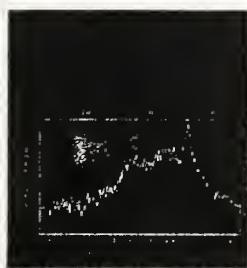


	PMMA	PMMA/PR-24-PS 5wt%	PMMA/PR-21-PS 5wt%
Temp at 0.5% shrinkage (°C)	78	88	92
Shrunkage at 100°C	9.0	2.4	2.0

### MWNT Length Reduction During Melt Blending and Fiber Spinning



### PET/MWNT Composite Fiber WAXD



### Fiber Tensile Modulus - PET/CNF Composite

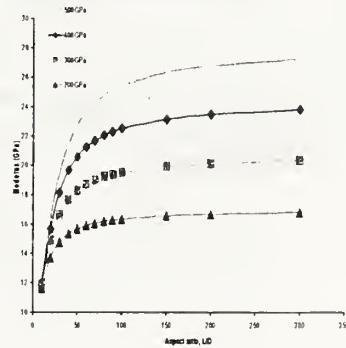
#### Modified Cox model:

$$\beta = \frac{l}{d} \sqrt{\frac{E_m}{(1+\nu)E_f} \times \ln(\pi/4V)}$$

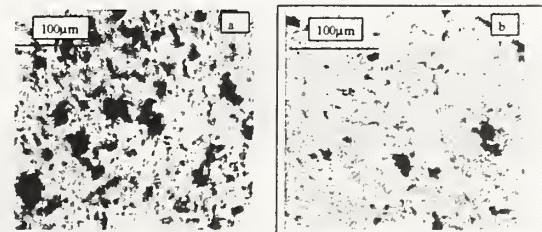
$$E_c = (1-\nu)E_m + q \left( 1 - \frac{\tanh \beta}{\beta} \right) E_f$$

$l$ : nano fiber length  
 $d$ : nano fiber diameter  
 $V$ : volume fraction  
 $E_m$ : matrix modulus  
 $\nu$ : Poisson's ratio  
 $E_f$ : axial tensile modulus  
 $q$ : orientation factor

Cox HL. Brit J Appl Phys. 3: 72-79(1952)

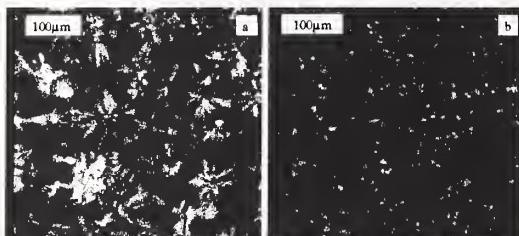


### Optical Microscopy-PP/SWNT Melt



PP/SWNT Composite (a) before filtration and (b) after filtration

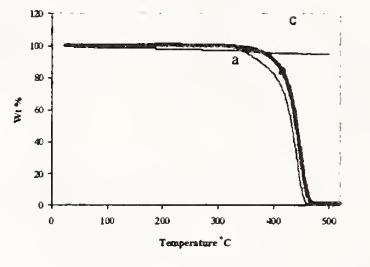
### Optical Microscopy - Sperulitic Growth



PP

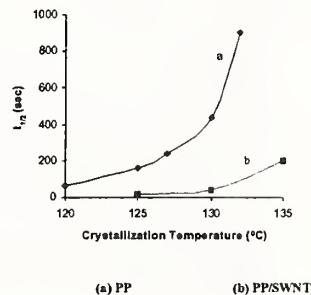
PP/SWNT

### TGA

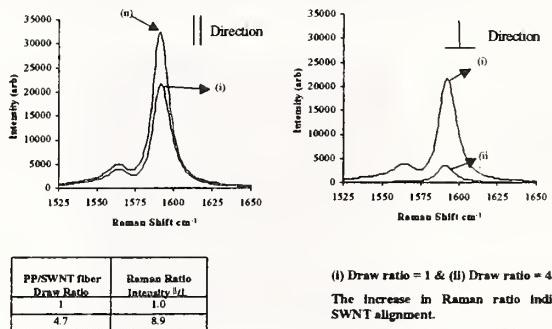


### PP/SWNT - Isothermal Crystallization

The addition of 0.8 wt % SWNT increases the PP crystallization rate.



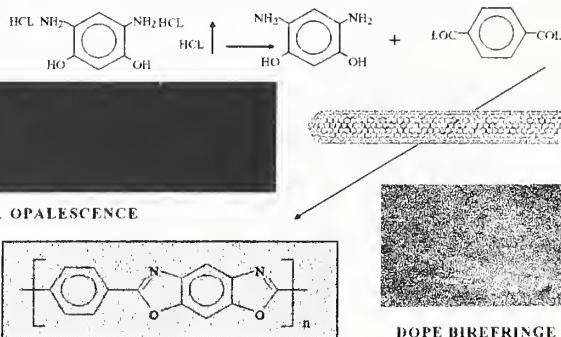
### PP/SWNT - Raman Spectroscopy



### SYNTHESIS OF POLYBENZOBISOXAZOLE

AFRL / MLBF

MATERIALS DIRECTORATE

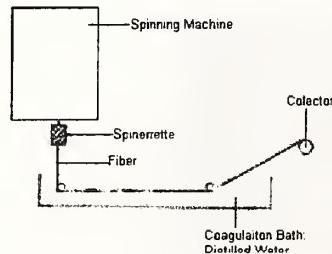


STIR OPALSCENCE

DOPE BIREFRINGE

Fred Arnold and Thuy Dang – AFRL/WPAFB

### PBO-SWNT Fiber Spinning Conditions

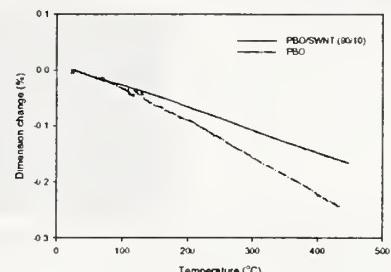


- Spinning temperature 100~130 °C
- As-spun fiber washed in water for one week.
- Fiber heat-treated under tension 400 °C in nitrogen.

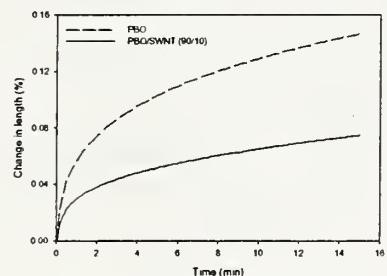
## PBO/SWNT Fiber Mechanical Properties

	E (GPa)	$\varepsilon$ (%)	$\sigma_t$ (GPa)
PBO HT	138	2.0	2.6
PBO/SWNHT (95/5)	156	2.3	3.2
PBO/SWNHT (90/10)	167	2.8	4.2

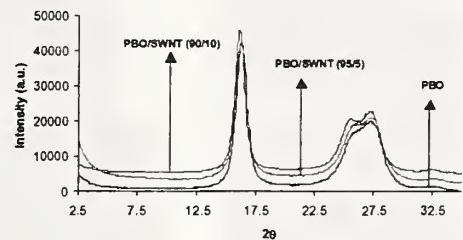
## PBO/SWNT – Thermal Shrinkage



## PBO/SWNT Creep Behavior at 400 °C

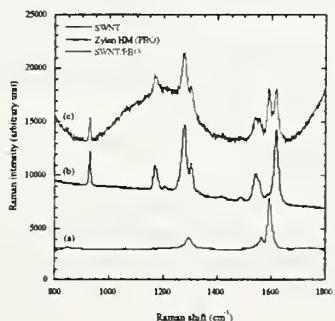


## WAXD: Equatorial Scan



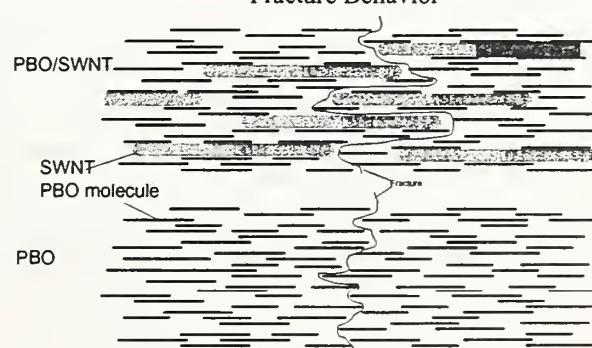
Richard A. Vaia – AFRL/WPAFB

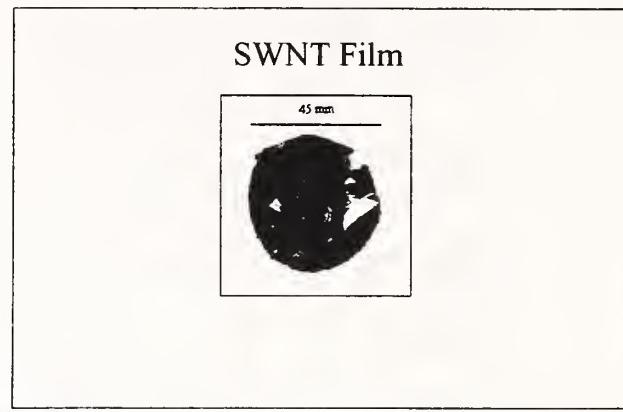
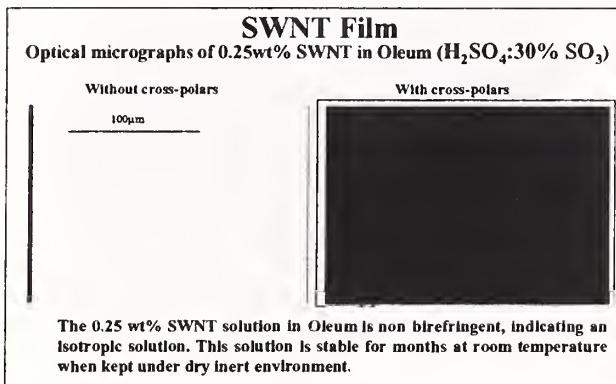
## Raman Spectroscopy



Cheol Park – NASA Langley

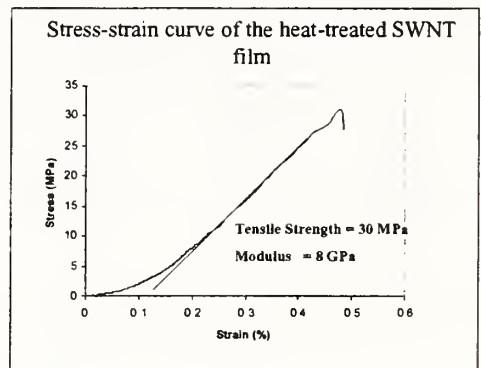
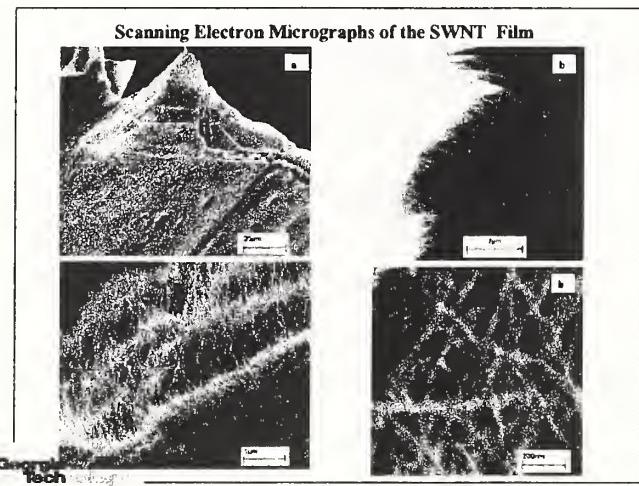
## PBO and PBO/SWNT Fibers Fracture Behavior





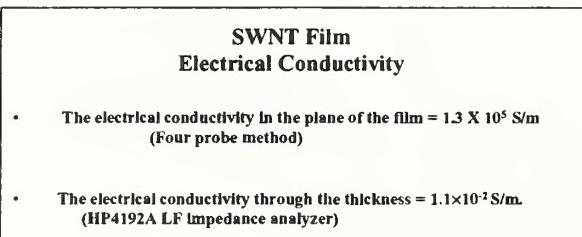
Georgia Tech Research Institute

Georgia Tech Research Institute



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## Summary

- Polymer/nanotube composite fibers can be spun using the typical polymer spinning equipment /conditions.
- MWNT exhibit good dispersion in PET, PP, and PMMA. PP and PMMA appears to have good interaction with MWNTs.
- High tensile strength fibers can be processed from PBO/SWNT.
- SWNT act as nucleating agent for PP.
- SWNT films with in plane DC electrical conductivity of the order of  $10^5 \text{ S/m}$  have been processed from isotropic solutions in oleum.

## Acknowledgements

- **Funding**
  - AFOSR, ONR, NSF, KoSa, and CNI
- MWNT – Applied Sciences Inc.
- SWNT work is being done in collaboration with Professor Smalley's group at Rice University and Air force Research Laboratory (Fred Arnold, Thuy Dang, and Richard Vaia).
- Cheol Park - NASA
- Hongming Ma, Jijun Zeng, Harit Doshi, Byung Min, T. V. Sreekumar, Arup R. Bhattacharyya, Xiefei Zhang.



5) Alex Morgan, “**Polypropylene Nanocomposites: Clay Organic Treatment Concentration Effects on Mechanical Properties, Flammability Properties and Clay Dispersion**” [[PowerPoint](#)] [[PDF](#)]

Dr. Morgan summarized some of the efforts at Dow at exploiting clay-filled thermoset and thermoplastic nanocomposites. These materials show major improvements in mechanical properties, gas barrier properties, thermal stability and flame retardancy and the factors influencing these property changes were summarized- synthesis method, extent of dispersion, clay type and organic treatment, polymer matrix type. The presentation emphasized the complexity of understanding and controlling the properties of these complex materials. Particular emphasis was given to property changes that accompany the variation in the amount of organic modifier in the material. The presentation covered a wide range of experimental methodologies (x-ray diffraction, transmission electron microscopy, thermal gravimetric analysis, mechanical property testing, Flammability property testing, NMR, Atomic force microscopy, neutron scattering calorimetry and optical microscopy) since no single method allows for the characterization of these multi-scale materials. The extensive efforts in characterizing these materials are an important factor in slowing the development of these materials and the need for faster and additional validation methodologies for characterization emphasized, especially methods relating to the characterization of polymer-clay and polymer-organic interactions that are important for dispersion stability.



## Polypropylene Nanocomposites: Clay Organic Treatment Concentration Effects on Mechanical Properties, Flammability Properties and Clay Dispersion

Alex Morgan  
Inorganic Materials  
Corporate R&D  
The Dow Chemical Company  
05/29/02

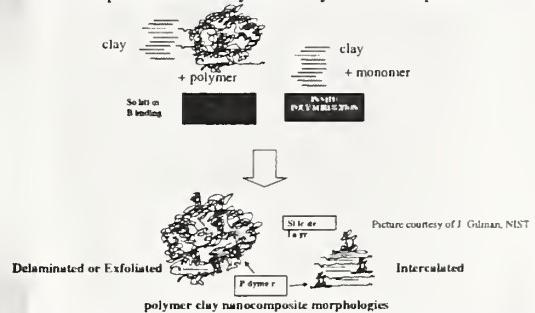
### Current Polymer Nanocomposite Technology

- Polymer Nanocomposites are composed a polymeric material (thermoset or thermoplastic) and a re-enforcing nanoscale material
- The most commonly studied re-enforcing nanoscale materials are layered materials, or clays
- Polymer-clay nanocomposites show major improvements in mechanical properties, gas barrier properties, thermal stability, and flame retardancy
- Many factors affect the polymer-clay nanocomposite properties
  - Synthesis method
    - Melt Compounding, solvent blending, *in-situ* polymerization, emulsion polymerization
  - Polymer nanocomposite morphology
  - Clay type and clay organic treatment
    - Layered clay aspect ratio, structure
      - Organic treatment thermal stability, structure
  - Polymer matrix
    - Crystallinity, molecular weight, polymer chemistry
- Understanding property improvement due to polymer-clay nanocomposite properties very complex

### Importance of Organic Treatment for Layered Silicate Nanocomposites

- Since layered silicates are hydrophilic materials, they must be made organophilic (or hydrophobic) to become compatible with the polymer.
- Without organic treatment, layered silicates only disperse in very polar polymers.
- Organic treatment is typically done via ion exchange between inorganic alkali cations on the clay surface and the desired organic cation.
- The organic treatment, being at the interface between inorganic silicate and organic polymer, will be a vital part of the nanocomposite, and therefore, must be tailored to synthetic conditions.
- Synthetic methods include solvent mixing, *in-situ* polymerization, and melt compounding.
- One of the most "industry-friendly" methods of making nanocomposites is with the use of melt compounding.
- Polymer and organically treated clay are heated to the melting point of the polymer, and the two are mixed together via compounding equipment (extruder, mixing head, etc.)

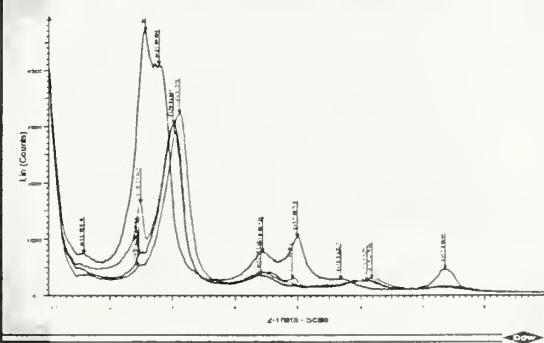
### Preparation of Polymer Clay-Nanocomposites

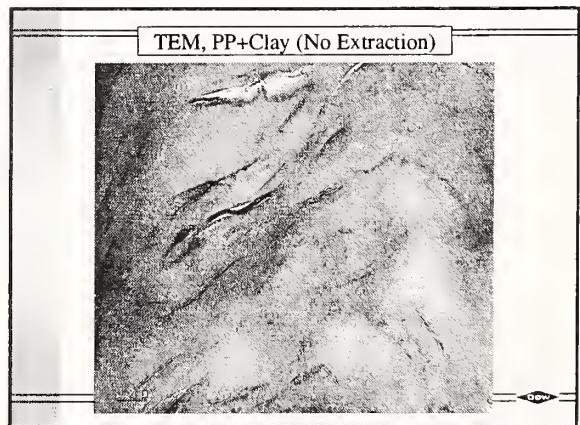
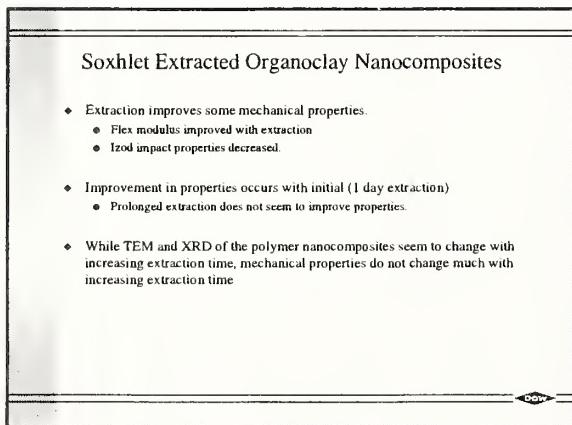
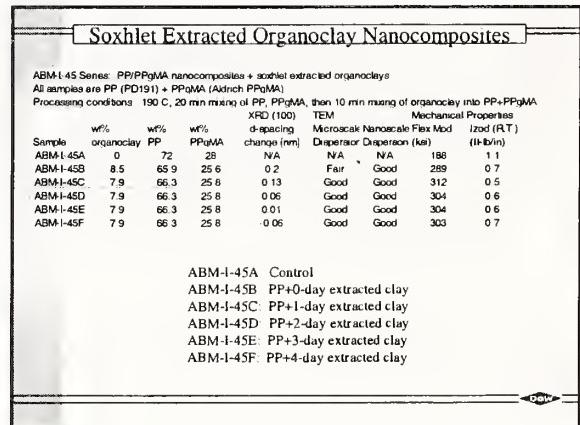
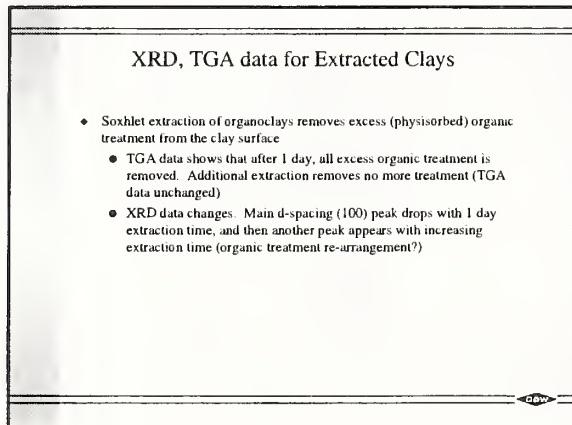
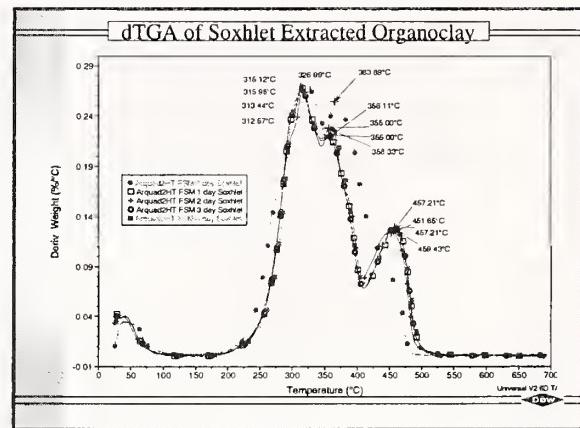
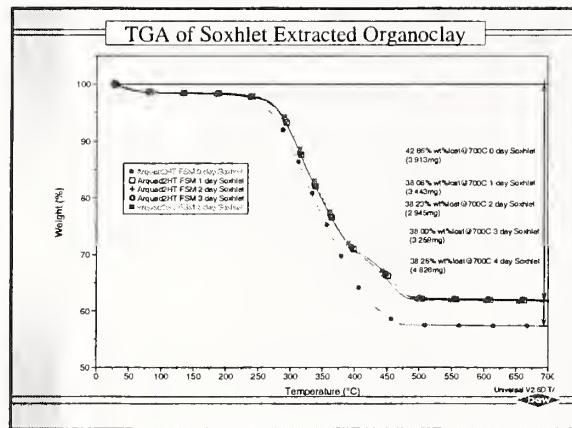


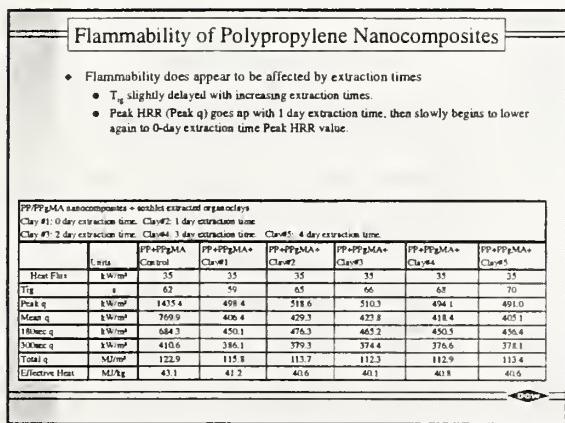
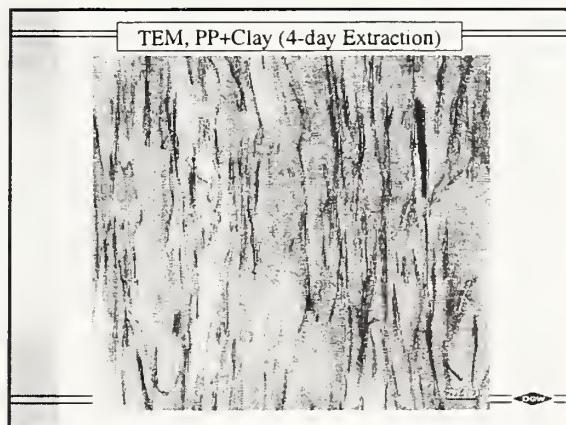
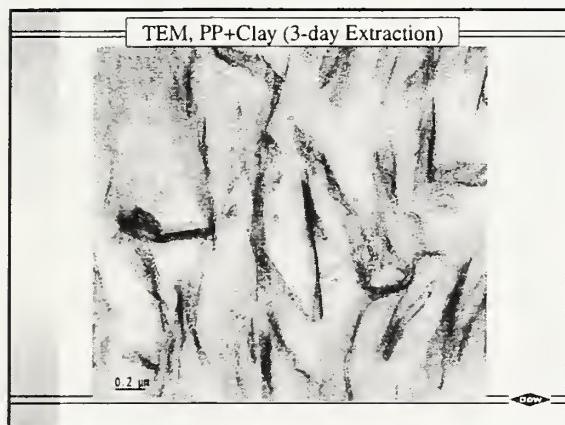
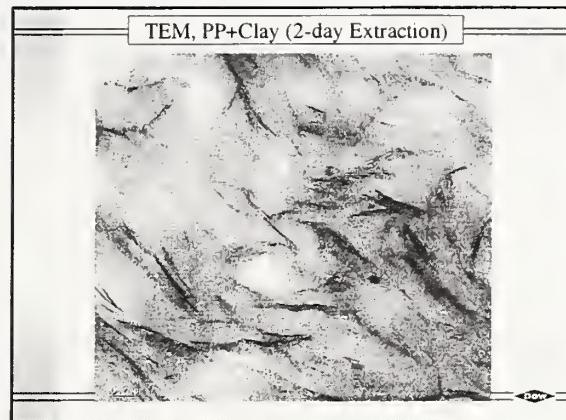
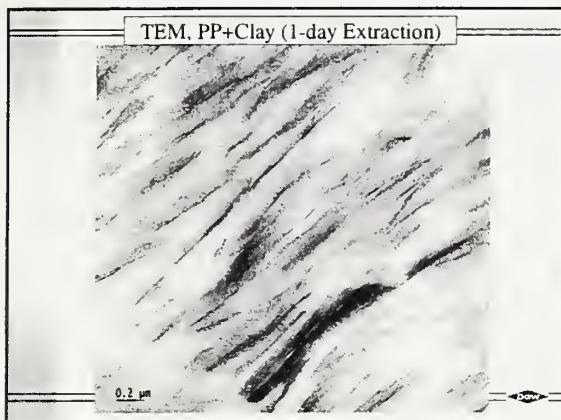
### Soxhlet Extraction of Organoclays

- An organoclay (fluorinated synthetic mica (FSM), Somasif ME-100 from Co-op Chemical) treated with an alkyl ammonium chloride (dimethyl, dihydrogenated tallow ammonium, Arquad 2HT from Akzo-Nobel) was extracted with a Soxhlet apparatus from 1 to 4 days with ethanol.
- Each batch of extracted clay (1 day, 2 days, 3 days, 4 days) was analyzed by TGA and XRD.
- By using Soxhlet extraction, excess organic treatment (physisorbed, or non-ion exchanged treatment) can be washed off, possibly improving the thermal stability of the organoclay, as well as removing plasticizing organic treatment.

### XRD of Soxhlet Extracted Organoclay





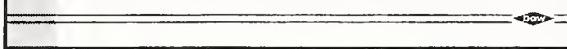


### Conclusions

- Soxhlet extraction of organoclays removes excess organic treatment after 1 day extraction time.
  - TGA, DTGA data shows materials to be identical in organic content after 1 day extraction time. Additional extraction removes no more material.
  - XRD patterns do change with increasing extraction time. Reason unknown
- Removal of excess organic treatment does improve mechanical, flammability properties.
  - Flex modulus improved with removal of organic treatment, but Izod impact diminished (Org. treatment acts as plasticizer)
  - Mechanical property changes only occur going from unextracted to 1 day extracted clay. Additional extraction seems to provide no additional benefit, despite changes in XRD (d-spacing decrease with increasing extraction time) and TEM (better dispersion with increasing extraction time)
  - Extraction time seems to have a larger influence on flammability properties.
    - Peak HRR (lowest for unextracted clay nanocomposite, goes up for 1 day extracted material, and then slowly goes back to unextracted clay nanocomposite peak HRR level).
    - $T_g$  delayed with clay extraction (excess organic treatment does cause early ignition).

## Nanocomposite Analysis Techniques

- Many different techniques used for Polymer-Clay Nanocomposite analysis
- Commonly used techniques:
  - X-ray Diffraction (XRD)
  - Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)
  - Thermal Gravimetric Analysis (TGA)
  - Mechanical Property Testing (Flex modulus, Izod Impact)
  - Flammability Property Testing (Cone calorimeter)
- Other techniques:
  - Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR)
  - Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM)
  - Neutron scattering
  - Thermal analysis (Rheology, Differential Scanning Calorimetry)
  - Optical Microscopy

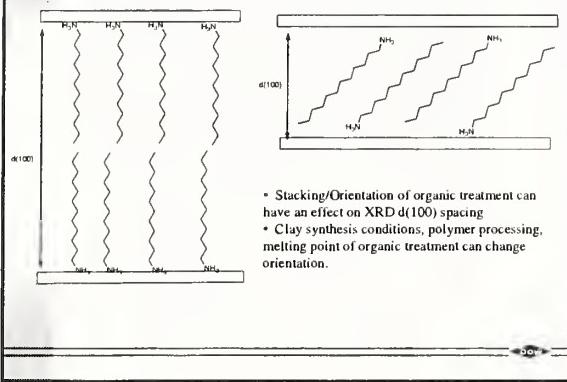


## Nanocomposite Analysis Techniques: XRD

- XRD measures the spacing between the ordered crystalline layers of the clay
- Spacing change (increase or decrease) can help determine the type of nanocomposite made
  - Immiscible (no d-spacing change)
  - Decomposed/De-intercalated (d-spacing decrease)
  - Intercalated (d-spacing increase)
  - Exfoliated (d-spacing outside of wide-angle XRD, or so far apart and disordered to give a signal)
- XRD however, affected by many parameters:
  - Sampling (powder vs. solids, alignment of clay plates, sample orientation)
  - Experimental parameters (slit width, count time, angle step rate)
  - Layered Silicate order (disordered/amorphous materials give no signal by XRD)
- XRD measures d-spacing, not overall (global) clay dispersion in sample



## Clay Organic Treatment - XRD Changes



## Nanocomposite Analysis Techniques: TEM

- TEM measures the overall clay dispersion in the sample
- Clay dispersion and structure observed under the microscope can determine the nature of a clay nanocomposite:
  - Immiscible (Usually large clay tactoids, undispersed clay particles)
  - Intercalated (Clay layers in ordered stacks can be observed)
  - Exfoliated (Single clay layers can be observed)
  - Can determine global microscale dispersion as well as nanoscale dispersion/structure
- TEM has limitations and drawbacks
  - Sampling (heterogeneous samples will give false results)
  - Labor intensive analysis, expensive analytical instrument.
  - Cannot measure d-spacing of clay, therefore, cannot easily determine difference between intercalated clay nanocomposite and well-dispersed immiscible nanocomposite
- TEM measures overall clay dispersion, but should be combined with XRD data



## Nanocomposite Analysis Techniques: Property Testing

- Current property tests follow ASTM or other standards.
- Tests determine property of materials, but do not indicate why properties were obtained
- Example: Flex Modulus Measurement Shows what flex modulus of property is, but does not indicate why stiffness of nanocomposite has improved.
- Exceptions:
  - Cone Calorimeter: Measures additional parameters, such as heat release rate and mass loss rate, thus suggesting some polymer nanocomposite properties.
  - Drawback Must rely upon other techniques to confirm nanocomposite dispersion. Technique measures flammability, but cannot explain why improved flammability was obtained on its own.



## Nanocomposite Analysis Needs

- No one technique answers all questions about a polymer nanocomposite. Several techniques needed to understand polymer nanocomposite
- Time to get back all data can slow development of polymer nanocomposite formulation
- Other techniques show promise at nanocomposite analysis, but need to be validated.
  - Neutron scattering - similar issues to XRD, limited access.
  - AFM: "Tip" resolution - uncertainty around images of clay plates (single clay plate, or stack of 2-3 very tightly packed together?)
  - NMR: Currently only works for clays with iron in the clay structure. Technique would need to be adapted for synthetic clays (no Iron).
  - Rheology/DSC: Suggestions made in literature that clay dispersions can be observed by DSC and rheological changes, but this may be specific to certain nanocomposites only
  - XRD: Possible greater use (peak height/broadness analysis relating to clay dispersion, d-spacing changes - what is significant?) - needs to be validated.



## Conclusions

- Polymer-clay nanocomposites present a complex analytical problem
  - Properties of polymer clay nanocomposite dependent on many factors
  - No one analytical technique analyzes these many factors
- TGA, XRD, TEM currently major tools for polymer-clay nanocomposites:
  - Techniques in combination give a better description/analysis of polymer-clay nanocomposite
  - Each technique has positive and negative aspects
- Time to complete analysis on polymer-clay nanocomposite slow step
  - New analytical techniques needed to speed up analysis.
  - Techniques that address polymer-clay/polymer-organic treatment interactions are needed.

## Acknowledgements

- ◆ Inorganic Materials, Chemical Sciences:
  - Steve Lakso, Juan Garces, Mike Paquette, Wanda Stringfield
- ◆ Analytical Sciences:
  - Joe Harris
- ◆ Fabricated Products:
  - Sylvie Boukami

**6) Atsushi Takahara, “Structure and Mechanical Properties of Natural Inorganic Nanofiller / Polymer Hybrids” [PowerPoint] [PDF]**

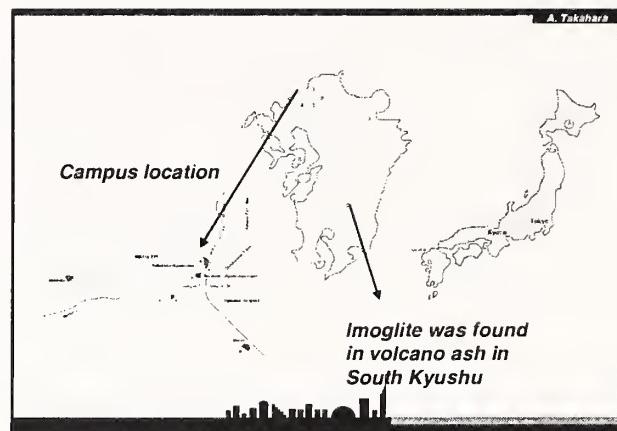
Dr. Takahara discussed a novel inorganic counterpart to carbon nanotubes that should be useful in dispersing nanotubes in polymer polar matrices without the need of surfactant additives. This type of nanotube ('imogolite') has an aluminum silicate composition and has molecular dimensions comparable to single wall carbon nanotubes, and naturally occurs in certain volcanic ashes found near Kyushu University. The environmentally friendly nature of this nanofiller and advantages for chemical functionalization were emphasized. After the extraction of the imogolite from volcanic ash was discussed, the properties were characterized by a variety of techniques (TEM, AFM, wide angle x-ray diffraction) and a tendency towards gel formation was observed. The functionalization of the imogolite was characterized though the adhesive force with an AFM cantilever tip and it was shown that the functionalized imogolite could be dispersed in an organic solvent (hexane). Films of PVA and PMMA and imogolite were prepared and the viscoelastic properties were characterized. Modified imogolite was also dispersed in PMMA and formed fibrous network of gelling nanotubes within the polymer matrix. Notably the transparency of the PMMA was not sacrificed for these nanotube additives. This could be important for applications where carbon nanotubes have a negative impact on appearance because of the characteristic black color of the filled polymers. Finally, clay-filled polymer (nylon) composites and the fatigue and mechanical properties of these materials were considered. The resulting materials are excellent in comparison to glass-fiber reinforced nylon.



**Structure and Mechanical Properties of Natural Inorganic Nanofiller/Polymer Hybrids**

Atsushi Takahara  
Institute for Fundamental Research of Organic Chemistry,  
Kyushu University, FUKUOKA, JAPAN

Coworkers  
K. YAMAMOTO, R. MATSUNO, H. OTSUKA, S.-I. WADA\*,  
A. YAMASHITA, T. KAJIYAMA



**Content**

- Characterization of natural nanofiber "Imogolite"
- Surface modification of natural nanofiber "Imogolite"  
*Chem. Lett.*, 1162(2001)
- Preparation of novel polymer nanohybrid from natural nanofiber "Imogolite"  
*J. Adhesion*, (2002).
- Fatigue behavior of nylon clay hybrid based on dynamic viscoelastic measurement during the fatigue process  
*Composite Interfaces*, 6, 247(1999).

**What is Imogolite?**

Imogolite was first discovered in the soil of volcano ash of Kyushu, Japan in 1962.

**Characteristics of imogolite**

- Nanotube with an external diameter of 2.5 nm and length in the range of several 100nm to several  $\mu\text{m}$ .
- Fibril formation in acidic condition.

**Nanofillers**

	Polar surface	
Diameter $\square$ 3-5 nm		Diameter 2.5 nm
Allophane $\square$ $1-2\text{SiO}_2\square\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3\square\text{nH}_2\text{O}\square$		Imogolite $\square\text{SiO}_2\square\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3\square\text{nH}_2\text{O}\square$

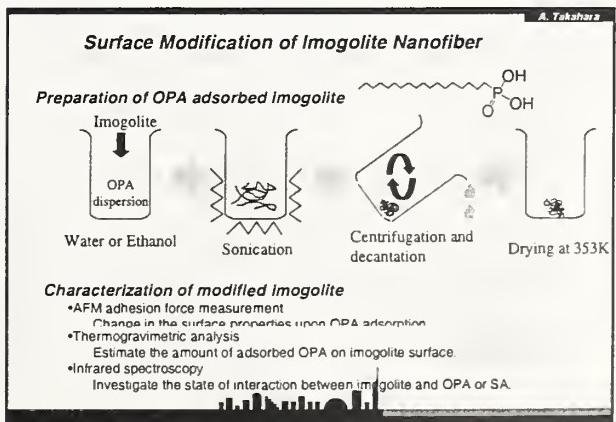
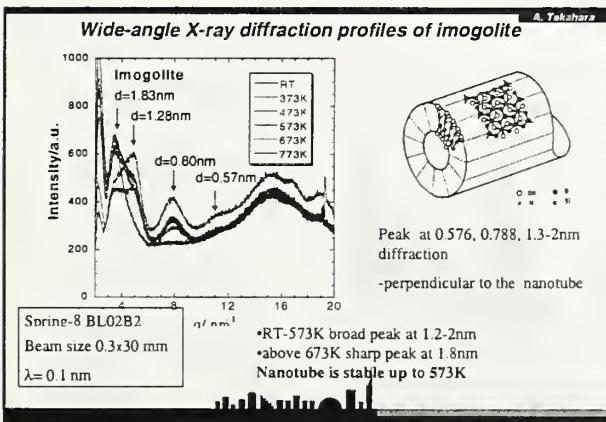
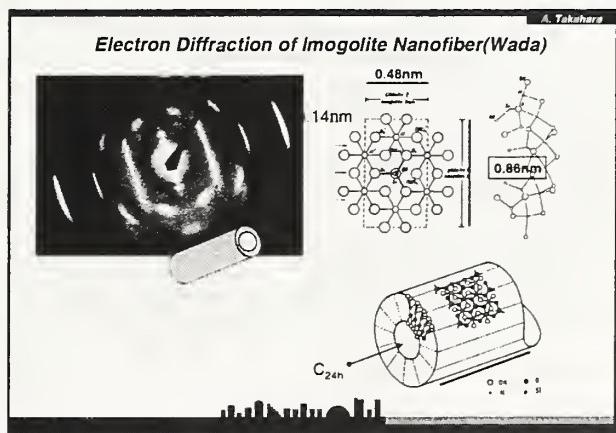
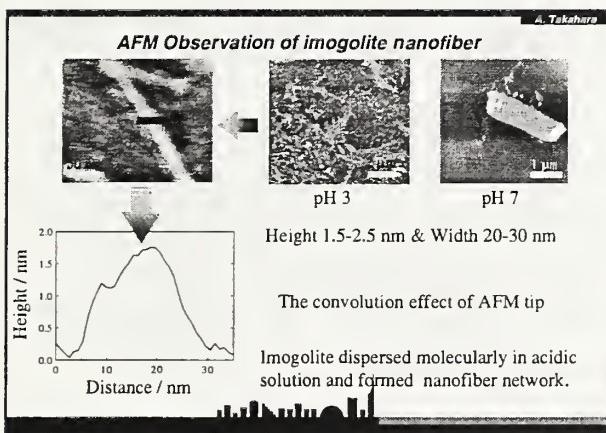
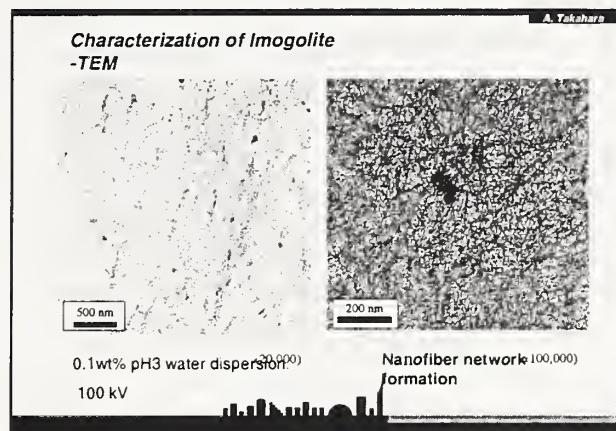
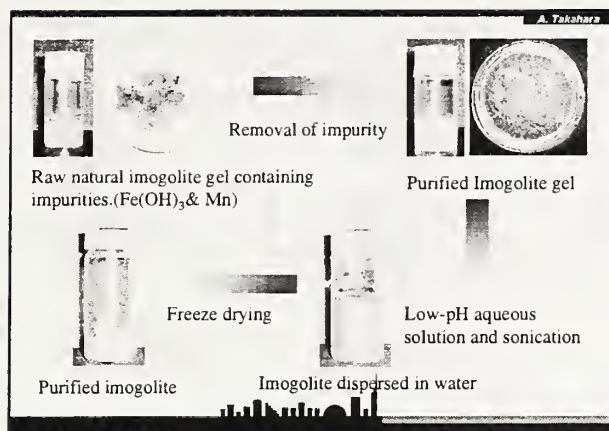
	Non-polar surface	
Diameter 0.71 nm		Diameter ca.1 nm
Fullerene C60		Carbon nanotube

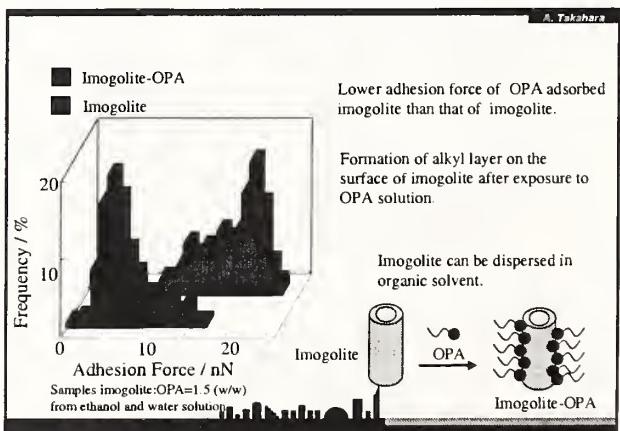
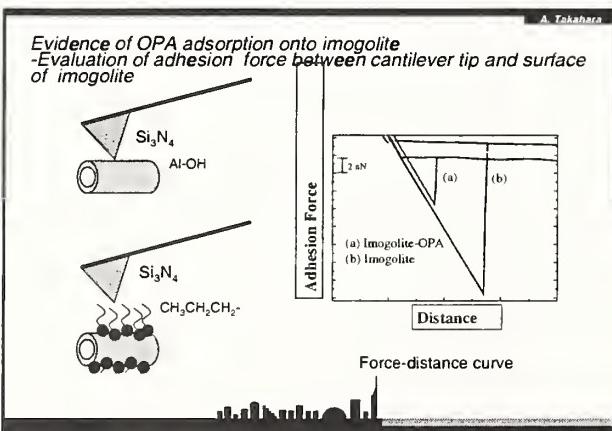
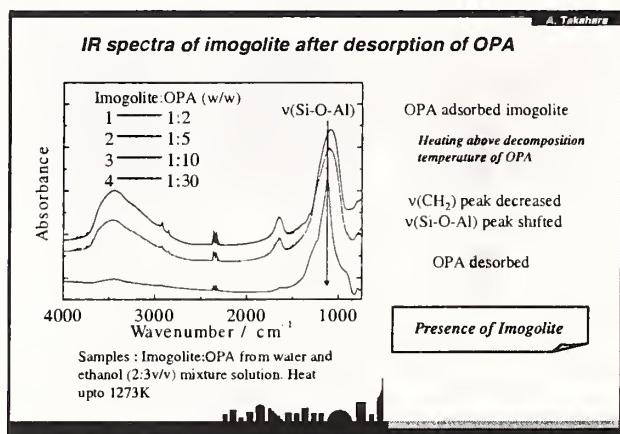
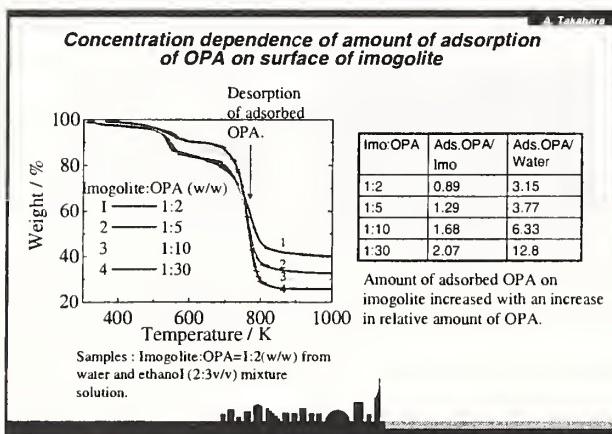
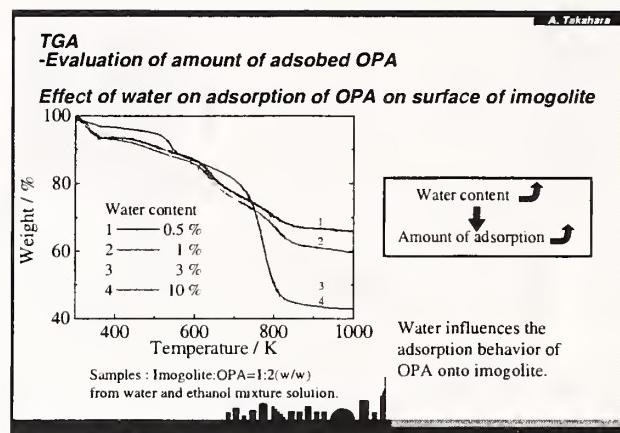
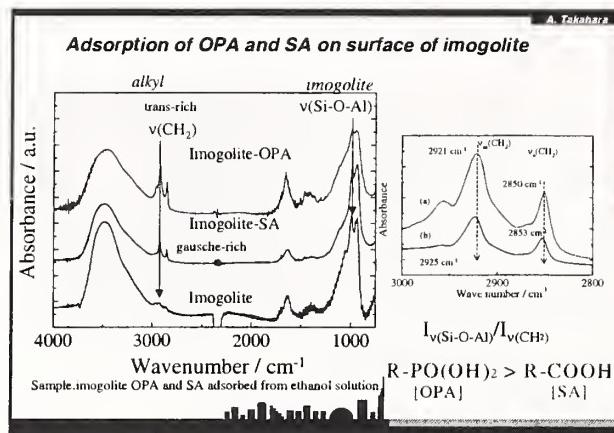
**Nanofiller** **Polymer matrix** **Nanocomposite**

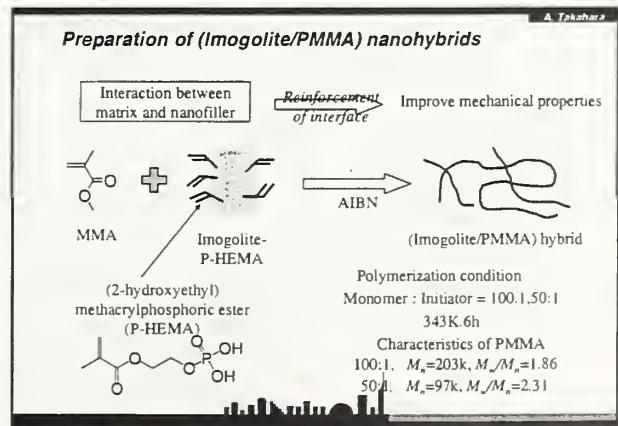
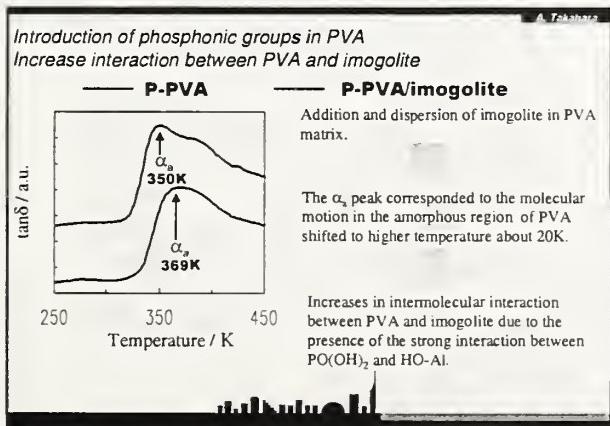
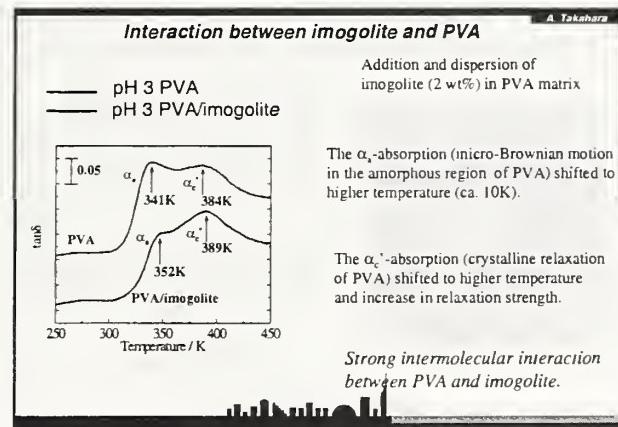
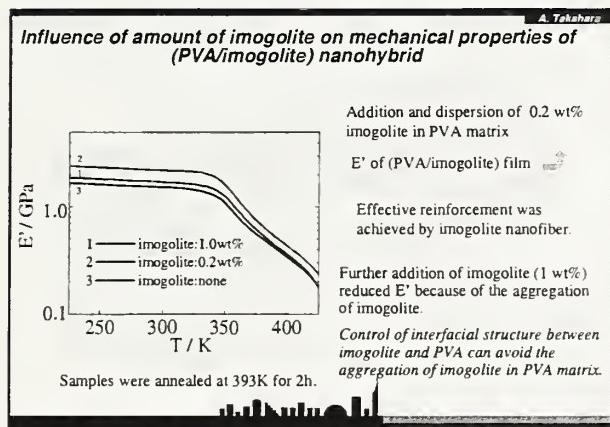
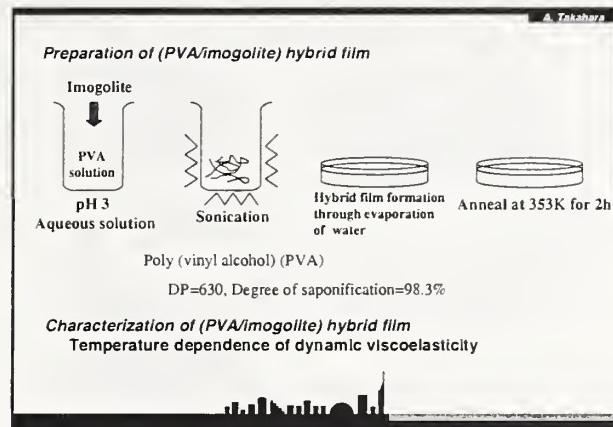
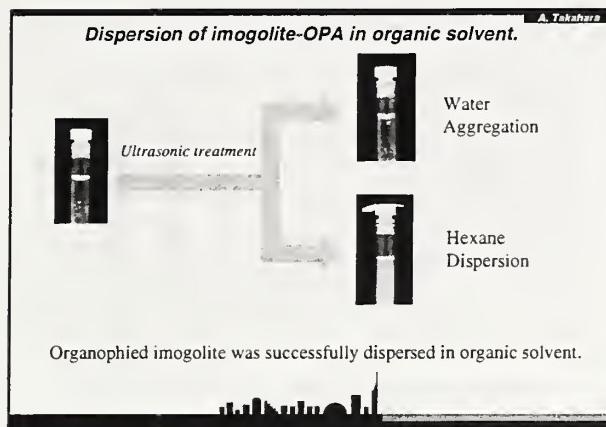
**Imogolite as a nanofiller**

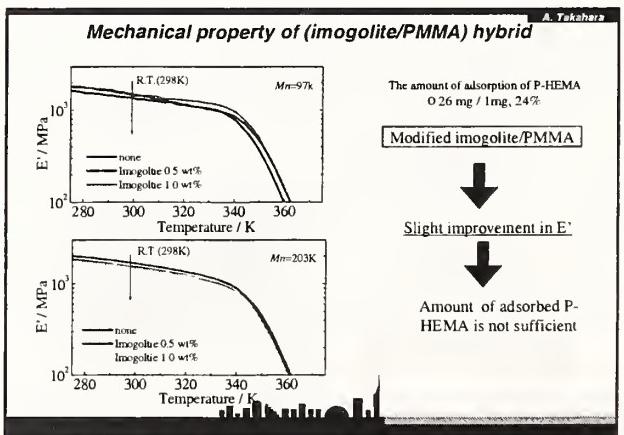
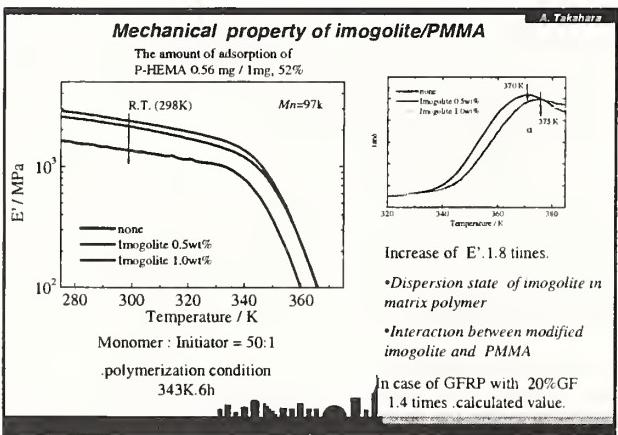
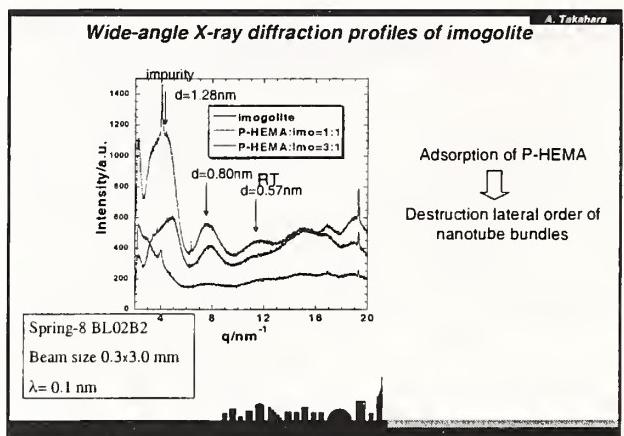
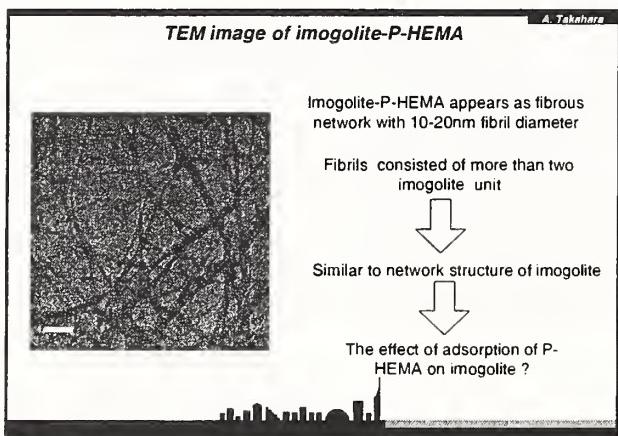
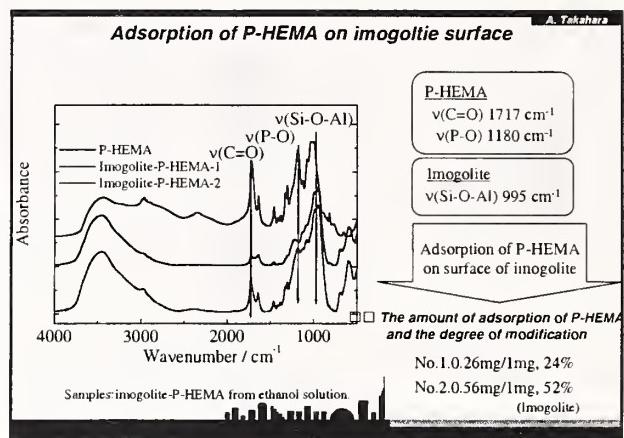
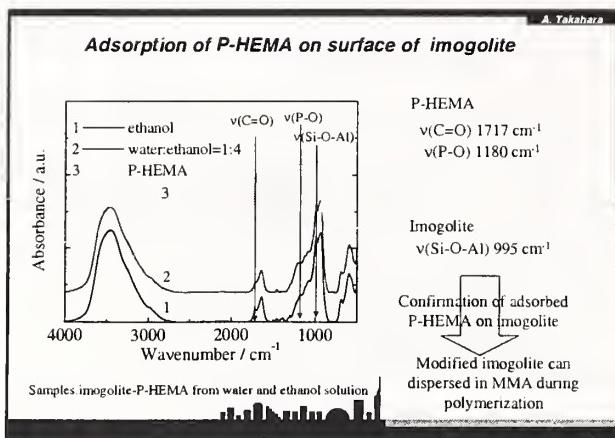
- Extremely high aspect ratio of imogolite
  - Imogolite forms space filling gel at the concentration of 0.2wt%
  - Improve mechanical, thermal, flame - retardant, barrier properties
- Chemical modification of Al-OH group of the external surface of imogolite
  - Control interaction between imogolite and matrix polymer
- Imogolite retain water in soil
  - Environmentally benign nanocomposite "Green Nanohybrid" can be realized.

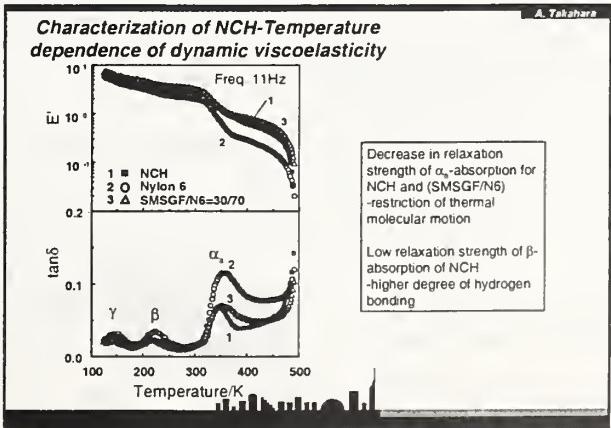
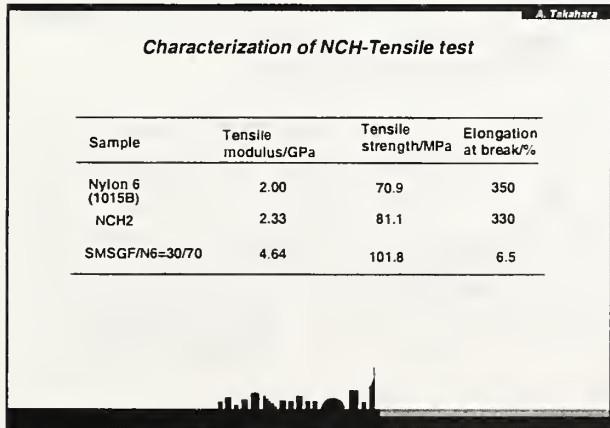
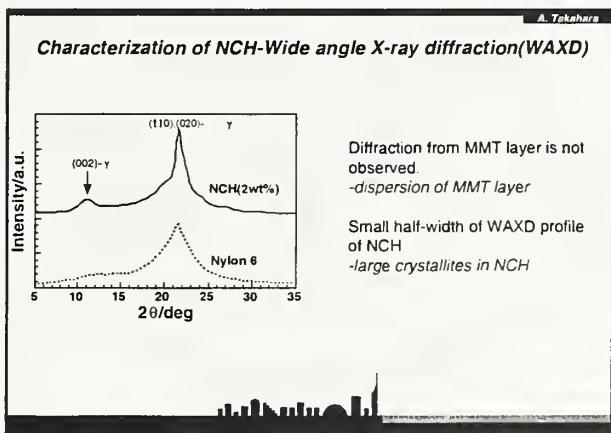
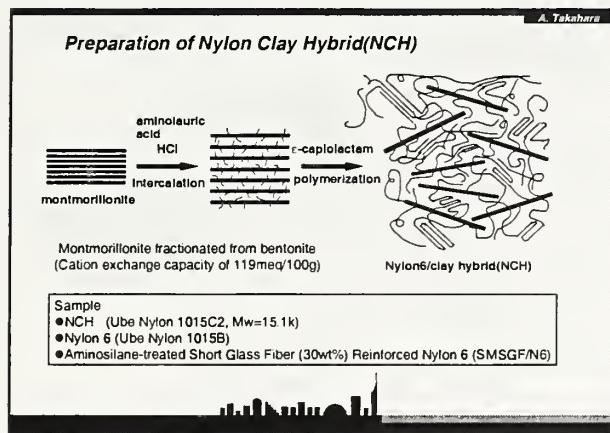
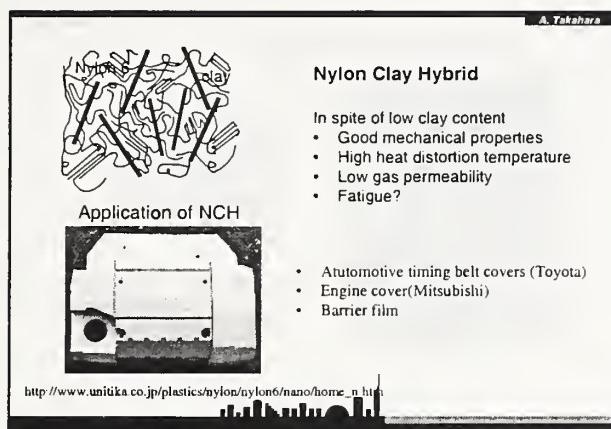
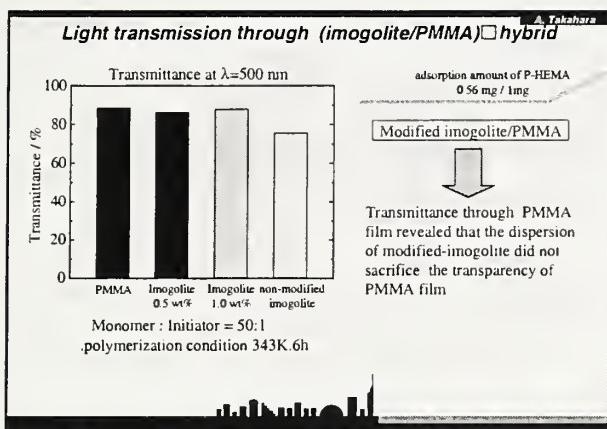
**Purpose**  
Prepare novel (natural nanofiller/inorganic) nanohybrids

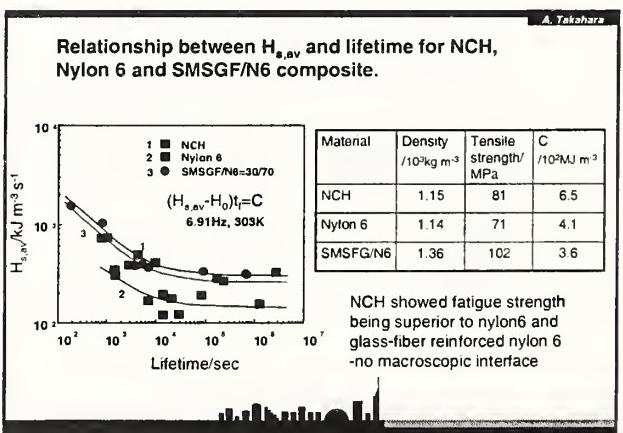
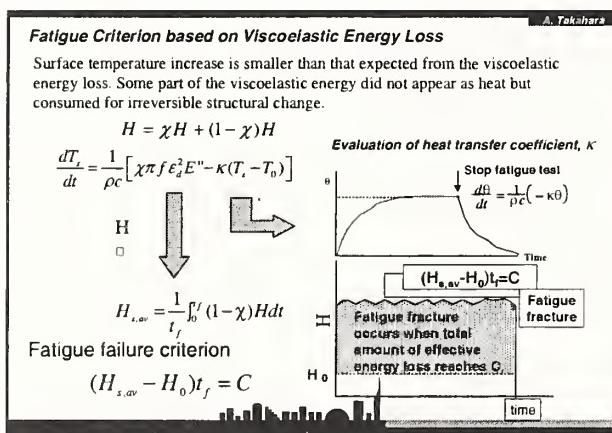
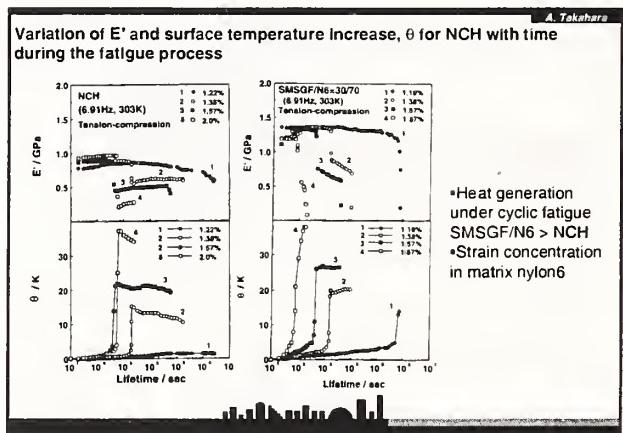
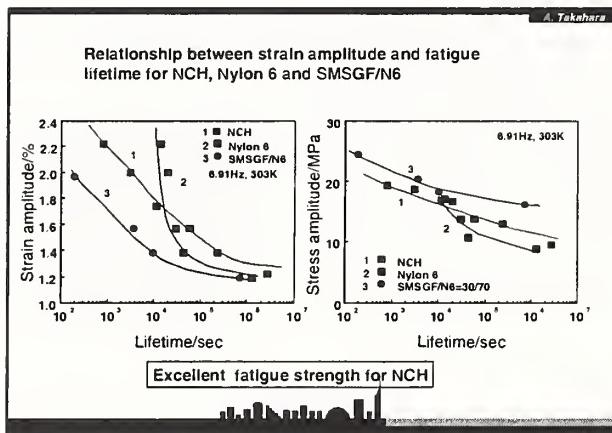
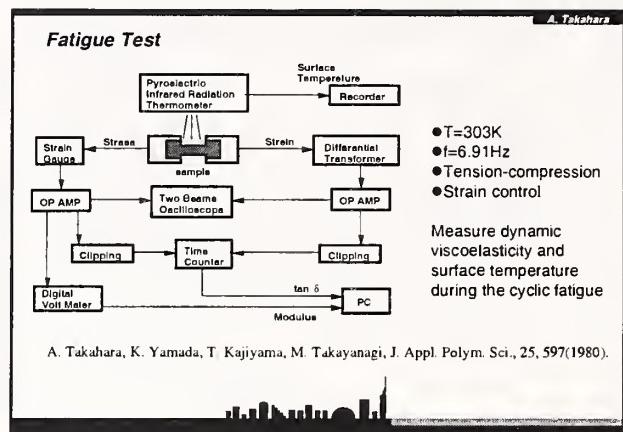
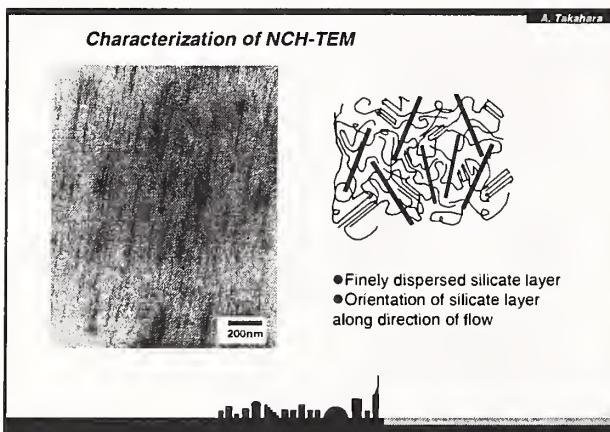












### **Conclusions**

- Surface of imogolite was successfully modified by organic molecule with phosphonic acid. Modified imogolite was successfully dispersed in organic solvent.
- Novel-Green nanohybrid was prepared from imogolite (natural inorganic nanofiber) and environmentally benign poly (vinyl alcohol) (PVA).
- (Imogolite/PMMA) nanohybrid was successfully prepared through surface modification of imogolite with P-HEMA.
- NCH showed excellent fatigue performance compared with conventional short glass-fiber reinforced nylon 6.





7) R. A. Vaia, “**Impact and control of Ultrastructure (Meso) in Polymer Nanocomposites**” [[PowerPoint](#)] [[PDF](#)]

Dr. Vaia emphasized the balance between cost and added value in filled materials that drive the development of these materials at the Air Force Research Laboratory and elsewhere. After giving a valuable summary of opportunity areas for development of nanocomposites in aerospace and the challenges for understanding structure-property relationships in these systems, he summarized some experience of filled systems in relation to self-passivation and erosion in aggressive environments. Tools found helpful in characterizing these systems are summarized (SAXS, WAXS). Challenges in understanding filled rubbers and parallels of the filled systems to complex liquids were also considered. It was suggested that many useful properties of these nanocomposites could be obtained by exploiting the high particle anisotropy and field structuring and preliminary work on this topic (e.g., orientation of clay particles with an E-field).



**Air Force Research Laboratory** Nanostructured Materials

# Impact and Control of Ultrastructure (Meso) in Polymer Nanocomposites

R. A. Vaia, H. Koerner, R. Reuter, G. Price  
Air Force Research Laboratory, Polymer Branch  
WPAFB, OH, 45433-7750

Air Force Office of Scientific Research  
AFRL Materials and Manufacturing Directorate

**Air Force Research Laboratory** Nanostructured Materials

## Outline

- Introduction & Drivers
- MesoScale Morphology
- Morphology and Properties
- Framework
- Morphology Control
- Summary

**Air Force Research Laboratory** Nanostructured Materials

## Organic-Inorganic Nanostructured Materials

**Objective:** maintain processibility and cost  
modest mechanical enhancements / weight savings  
value-added functionality

**Approaches:**

- A. Exfoliation
- B. In-situ formation (templating)
- C. Molecular incorporation

**Air Force Research Laboratory** Nanostructured Materials

## Polymer NanoComposites for Aerospace

**Conductive Plastics** electrical - permittivity - stiffness / ductility - processing  
Carbon NT, Metal NP, Dielectric Oxide NP

**Photronics** NLO - refractive Index modulation - PL - laser - processing  
ODs, Hybrid NP, Oxide NP

**MultiFunctional Plastics** mechanicals - self-passivation - shape memory - barrier - processing  
Layered Silicates, Carbon NT

**Propulsion** Space Deployables, Tanks, Composites, Tires

**Sensors (bio) Sources** Flex, Peckaging, Optical Elements

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## Fundamental Challenge: Structure-Property-Processing Relationships

**DESIGN**

<b>Properties of nanoelements:</b>	inorganic and interfacial polymer relative contribution to composite properties
<b>Properties of polymer:</b>	semicrystalline amorphous network topology
<b>Interface:</b>	tailoring and responsive strength v. processibility trade-off
<b>Properties of composite:</b>	general v. system specific

**STRUCTURE**

<b>Thermodynamics:</b>	mean field v. site specific experimental verification
<b>De-aggregation:</b>	mechanisms and relation to synthesis and processing
<b>Process-morphology relationships:</b>	block copolymer/LC parallel multi-length scale control
<b>Engineered morphology:</b>	beyond 'dispersion'

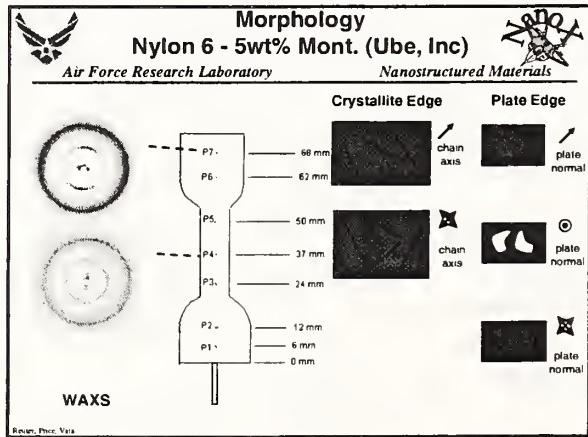
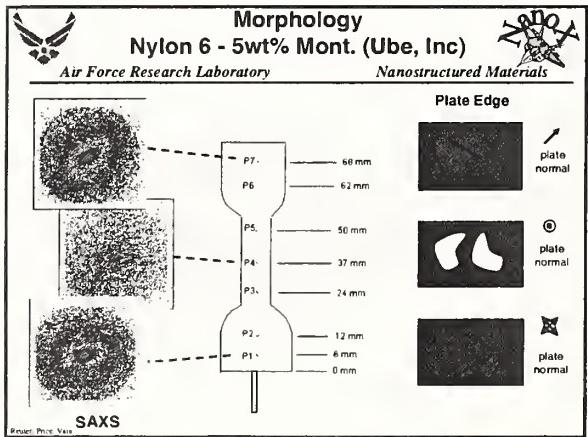
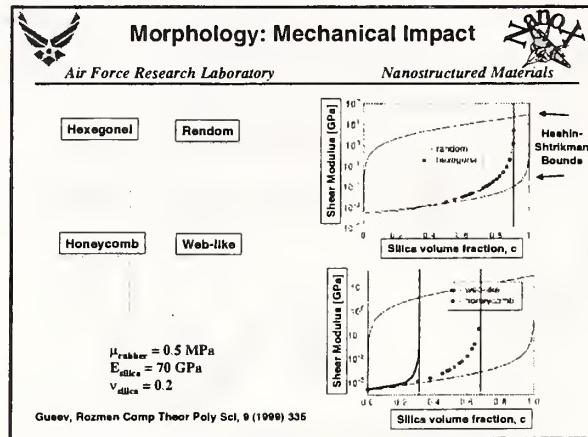
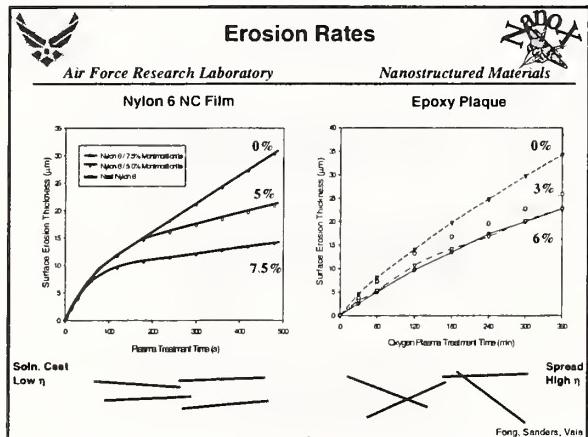
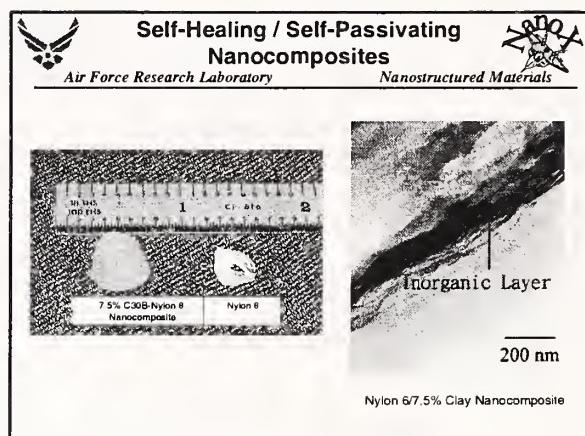
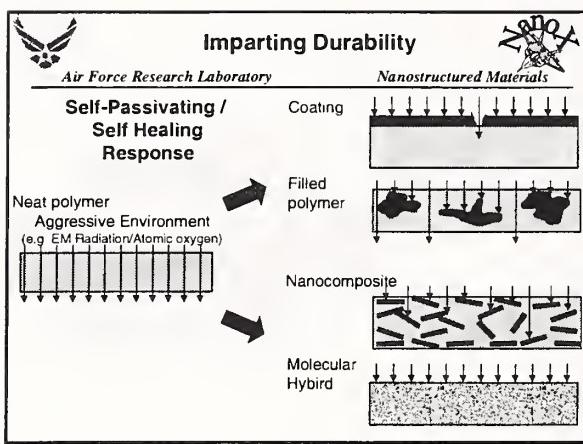
**PERFORMANCE**

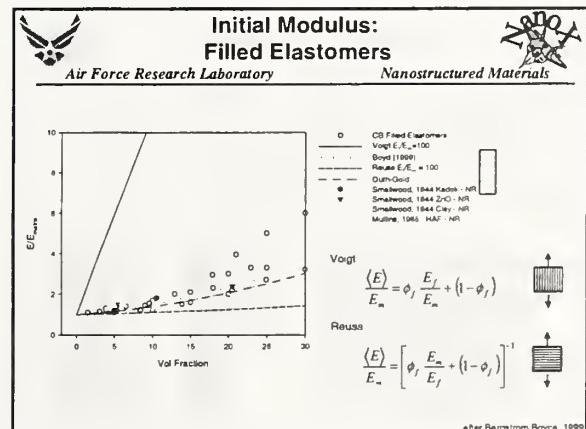
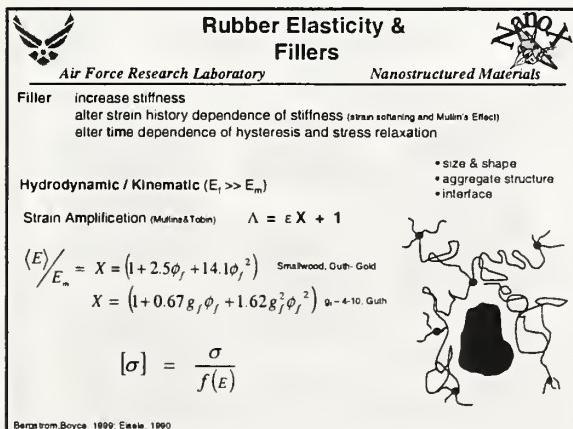
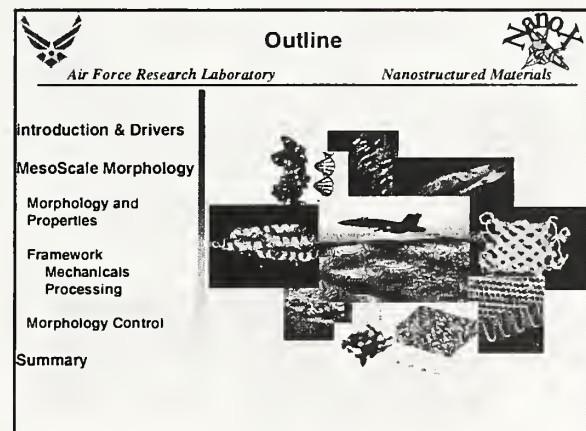
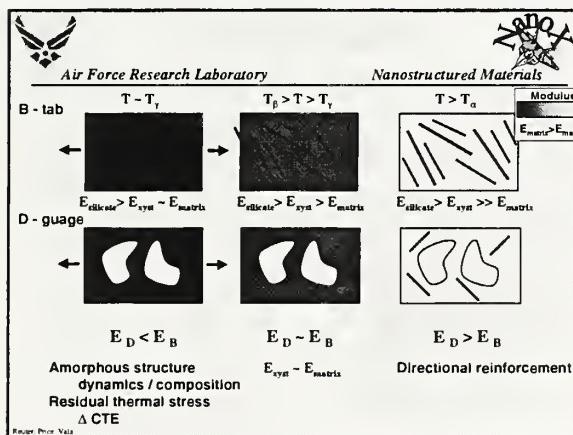
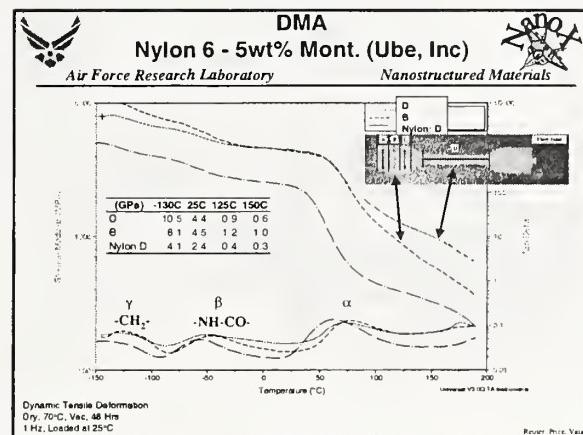
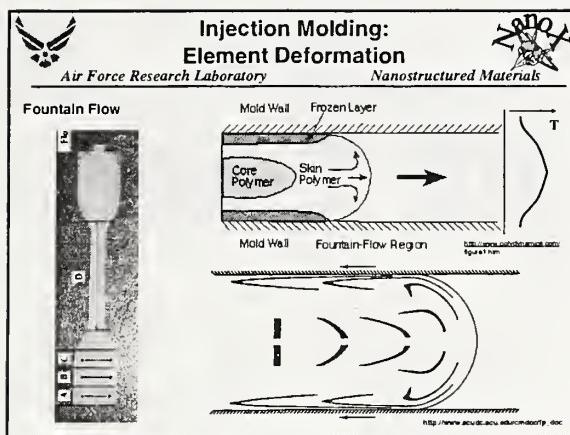
<b>Mechanics:</b>	continuum v. molecular experimental database residual stress synergism and cooperativity
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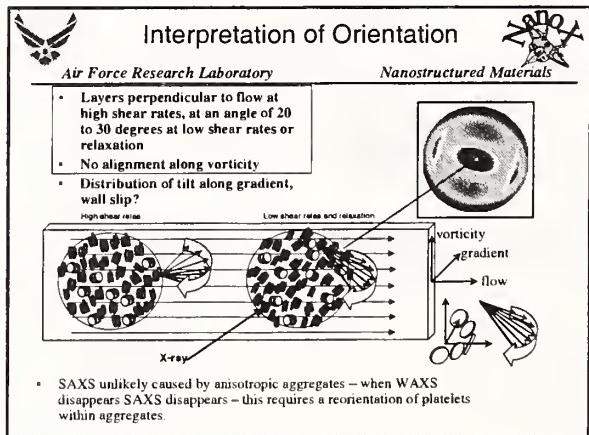
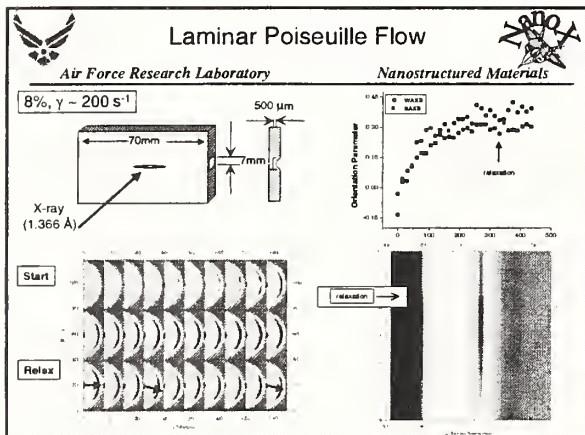
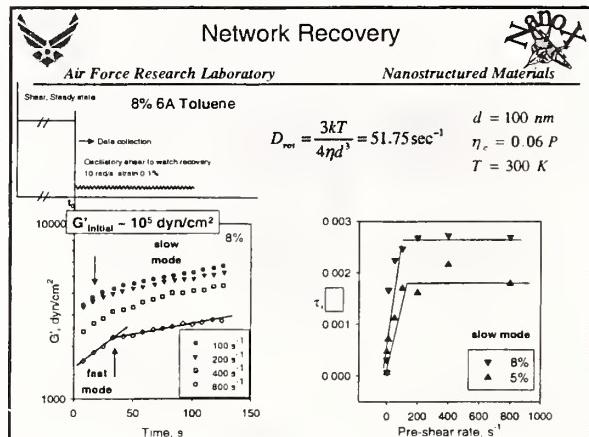
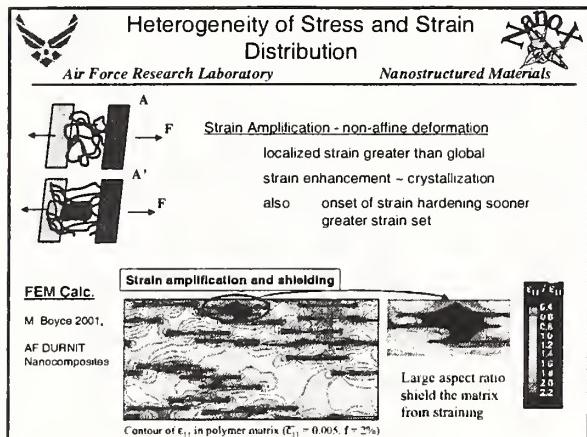
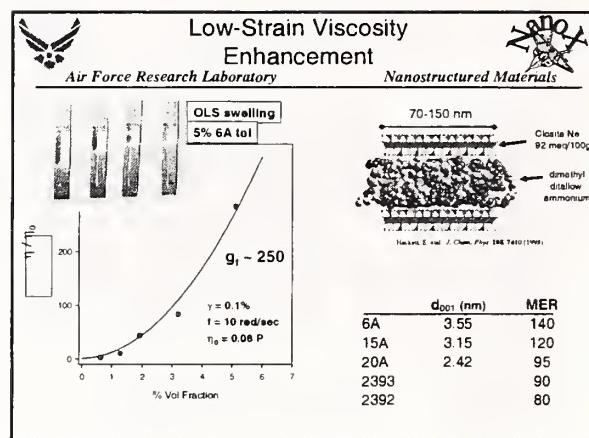
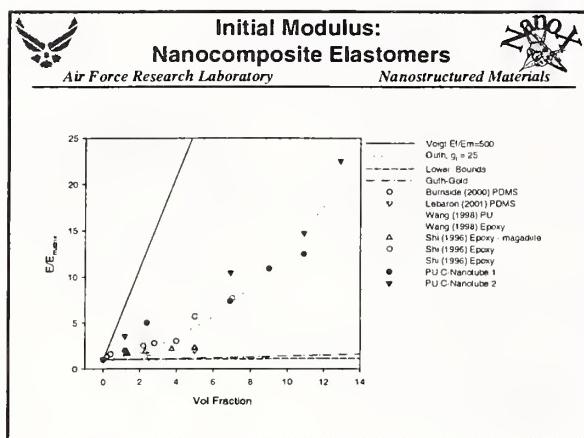
**Air Force Research Laboratory** Nanostructured Materials

## Outline

- Introduction & Drivers
- MesoScale Morphology
- Morphology and Properties
- Self-Passivation
- Mechanicals
- Framework
- Morphology Control
- Summary







**Parallel to Complex Fluids**

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**Thermodynamics**

**Dynamics**

**Rigid Rod Polymers**  
**Block-copolymers**  
**Surfactants**  
**Liquid Crystals**  
**Colloidal Dispersion (double layer)**  
**Inorganic LCs**

**Outline**

**Air Force Research Laboratory**      **Nanostructured Materials**

- Introduction & Drivers
- MesoScale Morphology
- Morphology and Properties
- Framework
- Morphology Control
  - Core-Shell Fab
  - E-Field
  - Holography
- Summary

**LCs Under Electric Fields**

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**Dielectric Permittivity**

M. F. Bonc, A. H. Price, M. O. Clem, D. G. McCormick, from Liquid Crystals and Ordered Fluids - Vol. 4, 1984

**Conductive Instabilities**

Carr-Helfrich effect and Kapustin-Williams domains

**Clay & E-Fields**

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**Aqueous Clay:** Majority literature Russian &/or 1960's: electro-sedimentation  
Sedimentation (water expulsion) at high fields 75-100 V/cm (~ 0.01 V/micron)

E-field polarizes diffuse double layer &/or interface  
Response to field decreases with decrease in ion mobility  
Effect in hydrocarbon suspension (NaMnt)  
depended on humidity

Permanent electric dipole? (hectorite, attapulgite)  
Charge mobility in lattice - internal induced dipole? (attapulgite)  
Intercalated mobility at surface? (methylbenzene blue - Mont)

**Intercalated LS - LC:** Kawasumi et al. (e.g. App Clay Sci, 15, 1999, 63)

LC aligns  
Proces a ligna LS  
LS inhibits rotation  
LC instability at high frequency randomizes morphology

**Clay Inert component**

**On-Demand Switching of Nanocomposites**

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**8wt% Mnt (6A) in Epoxy**

Orlen Param  
Epoxy Off 0.2  
Epoxy On 0.6  
Tol On/Off 0.56

**8wt% Mnt (6A) in toluene**

**After**

**Current Hypothesis**

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**Random**

flow

**Perp. Aligned**

Induced dipole  
Interface  
x = 30 nm  
MHz  
D = 10<sup>-4</sup> cm<sup>2</sup>/s

**Vert. Aligned**

Induced dipole  
Interface  
Torque = S<sub>d</sub> individual plates v. network

**Implications: induced dipole**

Critical frequency,  $v_c$   
 $v > v_c$  no alignment  
 $v_c \sim Q_{surface} \sim$  interfacial interact

**Randomization:**  
perpendicular field flow instabilities

**Outline**

**Air Force Research Laboratory**      **Nanostructured Materials**

**Introduction & Drivers**

**MesoScale Morphology**

**Morphology and Properties**

**Framework**

**Morphology Control**

**Summary**

**Conclusions**

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**General Conclusions**

- Nanocomposites – must consider anisotropic aspects  
Not sufficient to treat as isotropic systems  
Preferential reinforcement, self-passivation, CTE, etc..
- Initial Frameworks exist to develop SPP Relationships  
Stiffness enhancements in elastomers ( $E_t \gg E_m$ ) primarily aspect ratio  
Heterogeneity of local stress/strain distribution
- Network history (not just individual particle key)  
Anisotropic percolation and recovery  
Aspect ratio - persistence length
- Techniques for Hierarchical Morphology Control Necessity  
Experimental data for SPP theory  
Unique nanocomposite applications:  
Electronic packaging, optics, polyelectrolytes

**Potential**

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<b>Precision Morphology</b>	<b>Predictive Relationships</b>	<b>Cost Effective Manufacturing</b>
<b>Nanoscale inorganics</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	
Nanotubes carbon      silica $V_2O_5$ stc..	Multifunctional materials EMI shielding Smart fabrics Embedded antennas Chem/Bio membranes	
Nanoparticles (dots, rods, sheets) magnetic      photonic metallic      ceramic semiconductors		
Biological (proteins, viruses) Air	Active photonic crystals Actuators Sensor protection Obscurants Dielectrics Nonlinear-optical materials Fuel cell membranes	
Polymers Liquid crystal polymers Block copolymers Colloidal assemblies Electro-optical polymers Inorganic polymers Thermoplastics Thermosets Hyperbranched		

**Nanostructured Polymer Systems Team**

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<b>Morphology &amp; Rheology</b>	<b>Synthesis</b>	<b>3D Fabrication &amp; NanoPhotonics</b>	<b>Simulations</b>
D. Lincoln H. Koerner G. Price R. Reuter W. Liu R. Krishnamoorti (U. Houston) B. Hsiao (SUNY Stony Brook) E. Giannelis (Cornell) MIT DURNT	T. Dang F. Vastuner E. Vasiliu C. Co (U. Conn) D. Dean (Tuskegee) W. J. Brittan (U. Akron)	R. Jakubiaik D. Tomlin B. J. Gazdecki L. Natarajan V. Tondiglia T. Bunning	R. Bharadwaj A. Sansuaje B. Farmer
<b>C-Nanotube and Fiber</b>	<b>Thermal Stability</b>	<b>Thermomech. &amp; Mechanics</b>	
M. Alexander F. Arnold S. Kumar (G. Tech) C.-S. Wang T. Dang	W. Xie (U.W. Kentucky) W. P. Pan (U.W. Kentucky) D. Hunter (Southern Clay Prod.)	T. Benson Tolle J. Brown N. Pigano C. Chen	MIT DURNIT
<b>Space Durability</b>	H. Fong J. Sanders C. Cerbus S. Phillips		

**Extra**

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**Holographic photopolymerization**

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**holographic illumination**

**Modulated intensity profile**

$$R_i = 2\vartheta I_a f$$

$$R_p = k_p [M] (R_i / 2k_t)^{1/2}$$

Well-documented; Dupont et al.  
Bunning et al.

**Why Holography?  
(H-PDLCs)**

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**Transmission geometry**

**Reflection geometry**

**Advantages:**

- Large area
- Any orientation
- Simple, one-step

Bunning et al.

**Directed Nanocomposite Morphology**

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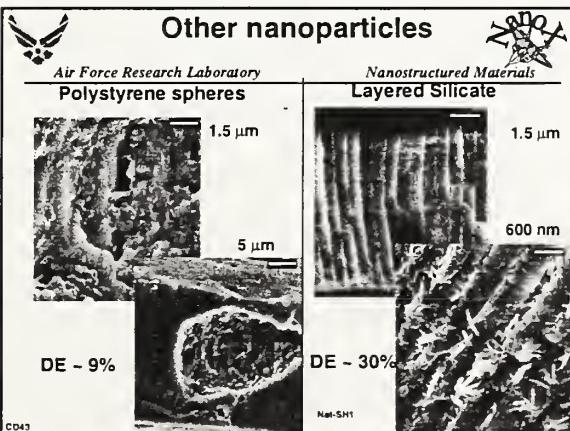
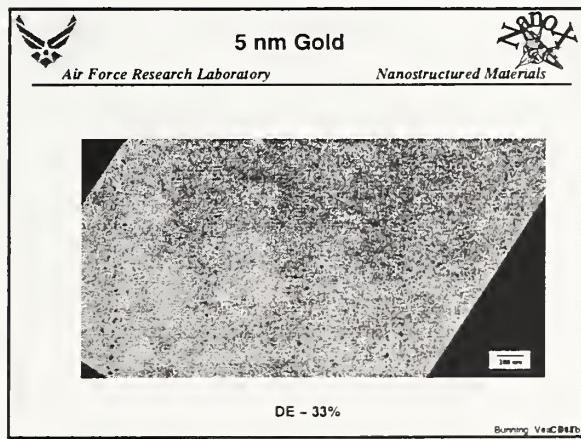
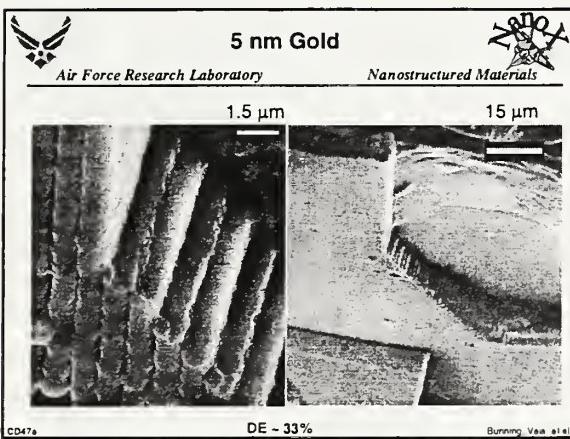
**Approach:** Use holographic (laser) photopolymerization to induce movement and sequester nanoparticles into defined 3-dimensional patterns

Holographic illumination  
Intensity interference pattern  
Functional nanoparticles in reactive matrix  
Sub-micron periods (50-800 nm)  
Spatially defined chemical reactivity

**Advantages:**

- Large scale area
- Various geometries
- Simple, one step

C.L. Denna, L. Narayan,  
V.P. Tondiglia, H.G. Jeon,  
D.W. Tomlin, R.A. Vess,  
T.J. Bunning



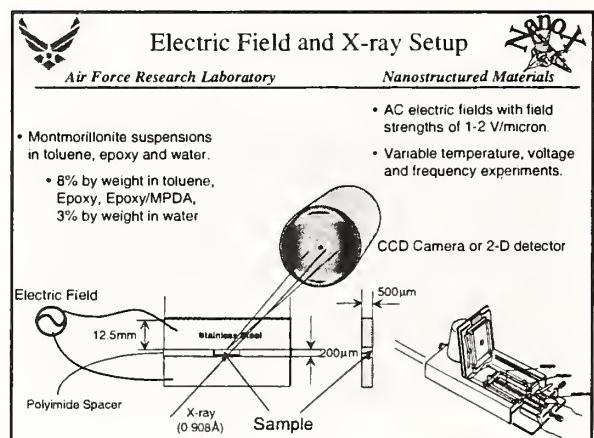
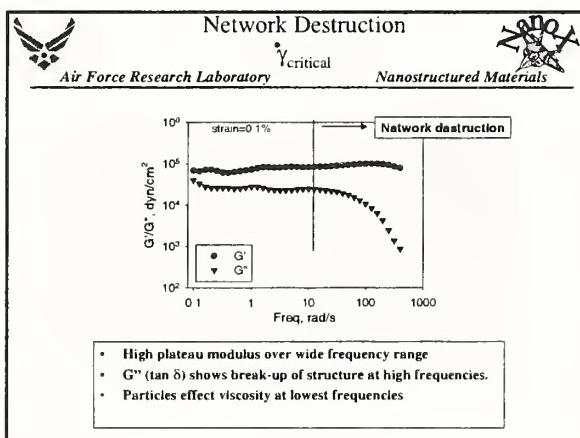
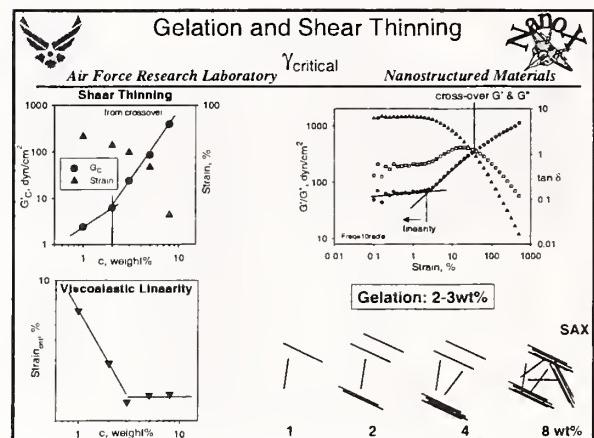
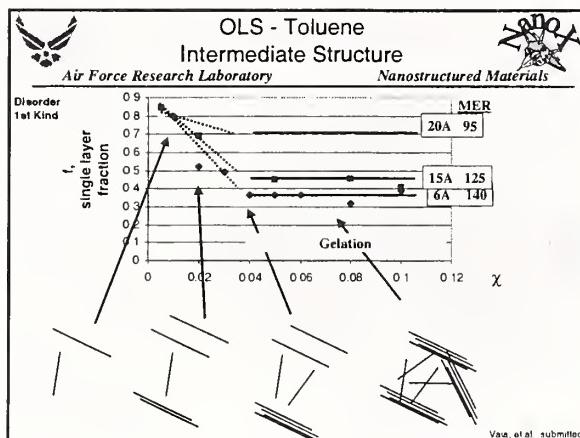
**Measured vs theory**

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$$\eta = \sin^2 \left( \frac{2 f_c (n_1 - n_2) \sin(\alpha \pi) L}{\lambda \cos \theta_B} \right)$$

	$f_c$	$\alpha$	$n_1 - n_2$	$L (\mu\text{m})$	$\eta$ (calc)	$\eta$ (meas)
Gold	0.05	0.25	1.05*	6.75	0.5	0.33
	0.04	0.25	1.05*	6.75	0.35	0.33
Clay	0.75	0.25	0.03*	10.0	0.25	0.30
PS spheres	0.78	0.33	0.07 <sup>b</sup>	20.0	.04	0.09

\* Real part (i.e. No absorption)  
a high end of clay  
b 1.57 for PS





8) Francis W. Starr, “**Probing Nanocomposite Structure and properties using Computer Simulations**” [\[PowerPoint\]](#) [\[PDF\]](#)

Dr. Starr emphasized the need to study nanofilled systems using idealized models with the intention of identifying general properties. First, he summarized recent molecular dynamics work by himself and coworkers showing that the glass transition  $T_g$  of filled systems can be shifted to higher or lower temperature depending on the polymer particle interaction. This effect was compared to similar results, supported both by experiment and theory, for shifts of  $T_g$  in thin polymer films with variable polymer surface interactions at the boundaries. Preliminary results were then shown for simple simulation models of clay sheets and compact nanoparticles. Not surprisingly, the compact nanoparticles aggregated when the polymer-particle interaction was weak. This effect was quantified through the ‘phase diagrams’ governing the clustering state of the particles in the plane of temperature and polymer-particle interaction and the plane of the concentration of particles versus polymer-particle interaction. The clustering transition was identified through a maximum in the specific that accompanies the particle clustering transition. These observations are consistent with an equilibrium clustering transition that requires further investigation. Useful criteria for identifying this clustering from scattering measurements were then summarized. Finally, the influence of shear on the clustering of model clay particles in a polymer matrix was investigated by molecular dynamics and the thermodynamic clustering line was found to shift under shear. Finally, the importance of developing hierarchical multi-scale modeling approaches was emphasized in order to model nanoparticle systems under more realistic processing conditions.



## Probing Nanocomposite Structure and Properties using Computer Simulations

Francis W. Starr

Polymers Division, Center for Theoretical and Computational Materials Science

Jack Douglas, NIST

Sharon Glotzer, NIST & Michigan

Thomas Schröder, NIST & Roskilde

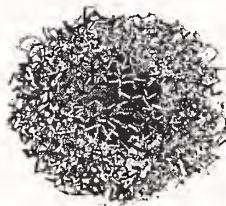
Barry Farmer, AFRL

Anuchai Sinsuwan, AFRL

Richard Vaia, AFRL



National Institute of Standards and Technology  
Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce



NIST, May 2002

### Example Nanofiller Geometries

#### Spherical/Polyhedral

e.g.  
colloidal  
silica, gold



#### Plates

e.g.  
clays



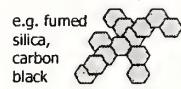
#### Rods, Tubes, and Fibers

e.g.  
carbon  
nanotubes



#### Random/Fractal

e.g.  
fumed  
silica,  
carbon  
black



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### Filled Polymers and Nanocomposites

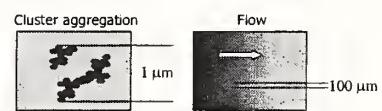
- Improve mechanical, rheological, dielectric, optical and other properties
- Low tech: tires, bumpers, paints and coatings
- High tech: micro- and nano-electronic devices
- Nanofillers
  - Tailor size and interactions to make specific property modifications
  - Custom designed materials!

Molecular level mechanisms poorly understood!

- Philosophy of this work: Start with simple systems, and work towards complexity

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### Multiple Length Scales



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### Outline

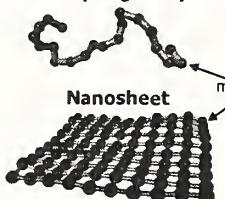
- Single, Symmetric Nanoparticle in a Dense Melt; consider effect of interactions on:
  - Chain Structure and Dynamics near interface
  - Relation to thin films (geometry implications)
- Nanocomposite: Symmetric nanoparticles in a melt
  - Aggregation and dispersion
  - Response to shear/relation to structure
- Clay-like Nanocomposite:
  - Response to shear (preliminary!)

Single Nanoparticle results: Starr, Schröder, Glotzer, Phys Rev E 65, 051503 (2001)  
Macromolecules 35, 4481 (2002)

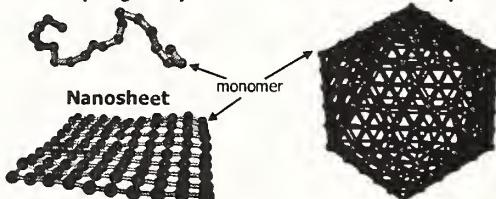
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### MD Simulation Model

#### "Bead-Spring" Polymer



#### Icosahedral Nanoparticle



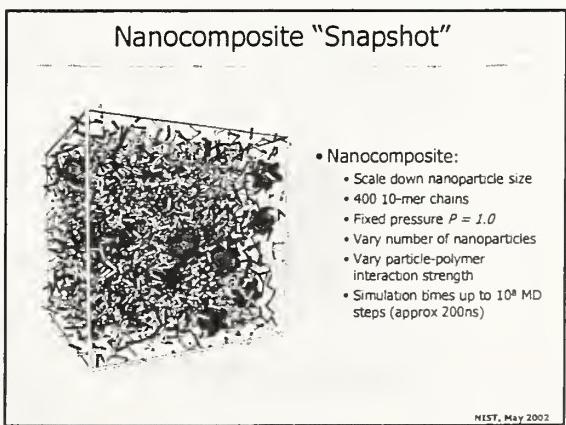
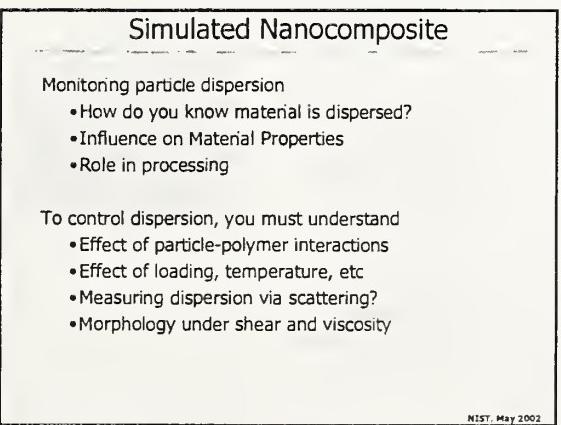
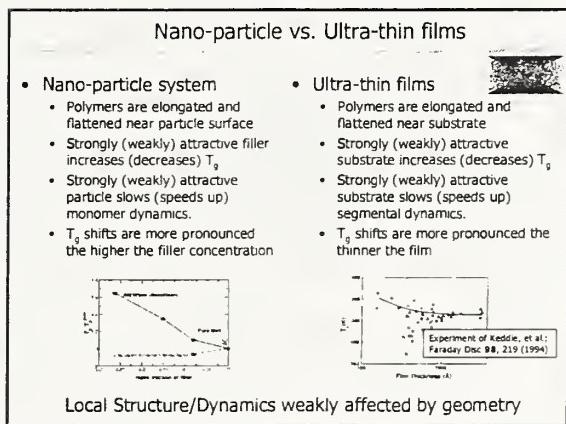
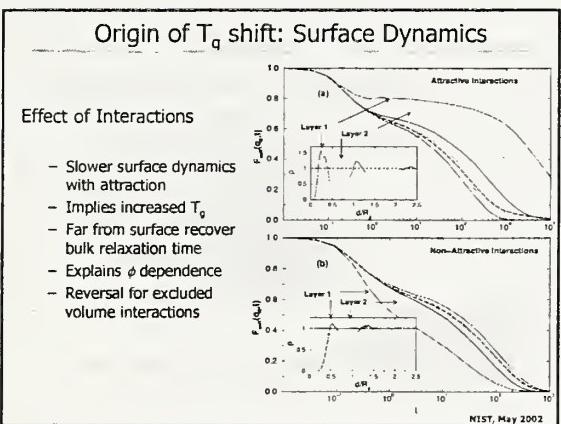
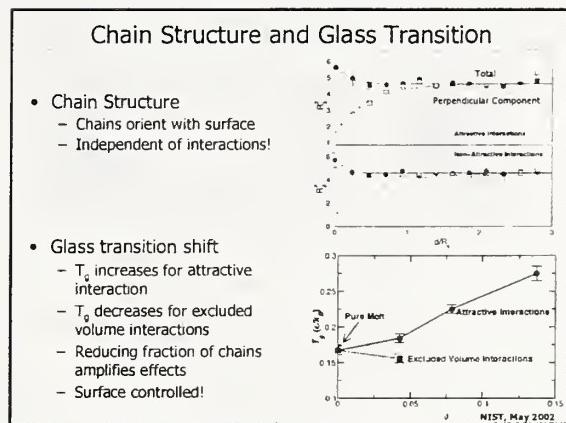
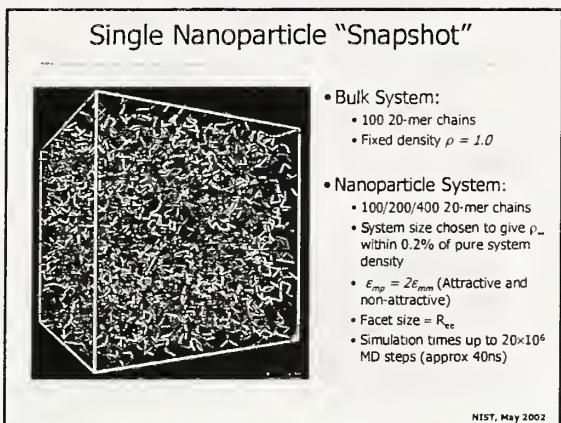
#### Interactions:

- Monomer: Lennard Jones; adjustable monomer-filler attraction
- Bonds: FENE springs along chains and within nanoparticles
- Vary polymer-nanoparticle interaction strength!

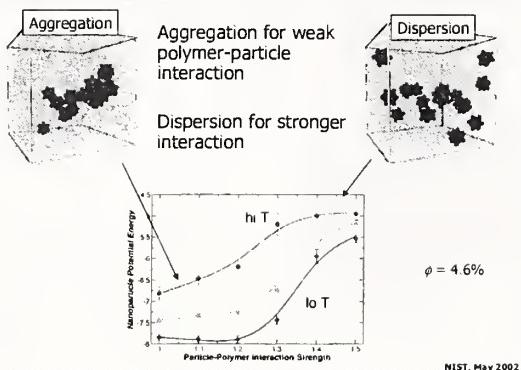
#### Systems:

- 100-1500 chains, 1-125 nano-filters (loading 4%-30%)
- Periodic Boundary Conditions
- $0.3 < T < 2.0$
- $10^{-4} < \gamma < 0.2$

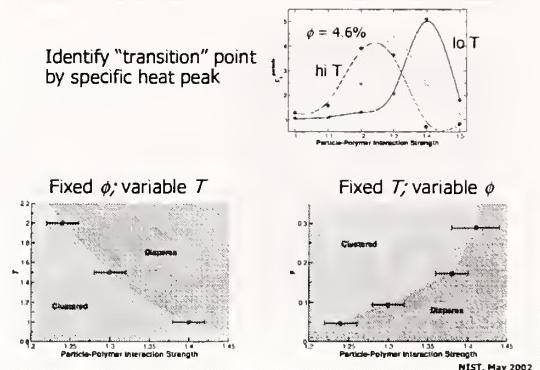
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## Nanocomposite: Particle Dispersion



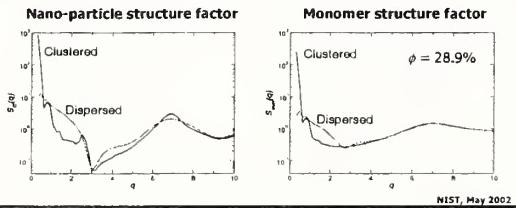
## Clustering "Phase Diagram"



## Measuring Particle Dispersion

How do we know the state of dispersion?

- Particle Potential Energy ideal for this system, BUT
  - Experimentally inaccessible
  - Complicated geometries: no information about orientations
- Structure should be apparent in scattering profile
  - Growth of  $S(q \rightarrow 0)$  indicates long range ordering



## Effect of Shear

- Start from initially clustered state
- Shear rate  $\gamma = 0.1$

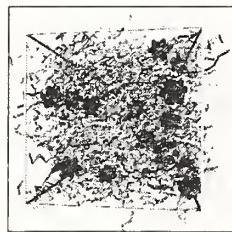


- Nanoparticles disperse in direction of shear quickly
- Disperse fully on longer time scale

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## Effect of Shear

- Initially clustered state near transition line
- Shear rate  $\gamma = 0.1$

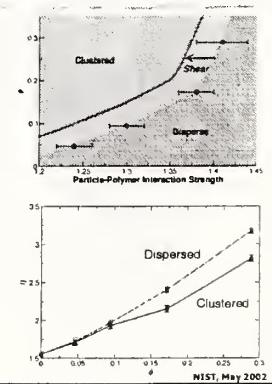


- Nanoparticles disperse in direction of shear quickly
- Disperse fully on longer time scale

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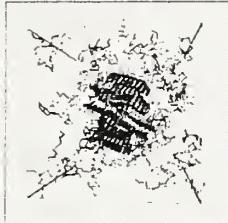
## Morphology and Shear Viscosity

- Effect of shear on clustering
  - Shear has little effect on dispersed systems
  - Very high shear to disperse systems far from "transition"
  - Shear dependent shift to clustering diagram
- Strength: Shear Viscosity
  - Shear far from transition (stable morphology)
  - Greater viscosity for dispersed system for  $\phi > 0.1$
  - Why no effect for smaller  $\phi$ ?



### Shear: Clay-like sheets

Intercalated  
(stacked sheets)



Exfoliated  
(disperse sheets)



- Loading:  $\phi = 0.057$
- Viscosity disparity equivalent to  $\phi = 0.2$  for nanoparticles

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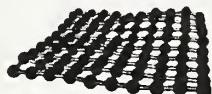
### Conclusions

- Surface Effects
  - Chains align with filler surface
  - Chain conformation insensitive to interaction
  - Interactions dominate surface dynamics and  $T_g$
- Clustering and Dispersion
  - Dispersion dominated by particle-polymer interaction
  - Dispersion measurable via scattering (impractical)
- Response to shear
  - Shear favors disorder here
  - Greater viscosity when dispersed
  - Geometry important for improving properties

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### What next?

- Filler Geometry and Interactions
  - Expand sheet studies
  - More complex interactions (electrostatic?)
  - Keep models simple
- New Approaches?
  - Larger length scales impractical for MD/MC approach
  - Mesoscopic methods
    - Lattice Boltzmann/Lattice Gas
    - Dissipative particle dynamics



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### Acknowledgments

Eric Amis  
Charles Han  
Eric Hobbie  
Alamgir Karim  
Alan Nakatani  
Andrew Roosen  
Wen-li Wu



NIST, May 2002



- 9) Juan J. de Pablo, “**Molecular Simulation and Characterization of Ultrathin Films and Nanoscopic Polymeric Structures: Departures from Bulk Behavior**” (talk presented by Kevin Van Workum) [[PowerPoint](#)] [[PDF](#)]

Dr. De Pablo’s approach to modeling polymer thin films and nanoparticle filled polymer materials stresses the need for molecular modeling (molecular dynamics and Monte Carlo), continuum theory and measurement. As in the talk of Dr. Francis Starr, this contribution emphasizes simple model systems capable of inferring behavior of qualitative importance for process applications. First, recent experimental and simulation studies of the glass transition in thin films are summarized as an illustration of the value of computational methods in interpreting measurement. This is followed by the challenge of understanding finite size effects in polymer lithography applications where the scale of the patterns becomes below the scale of convenient measurement and where continuum theory can no longer be trusted. Simulations provide insight into what might be expected in this nanoscale regime. The Young's modulus of the etched lines depends on the line width and elastic constants become anisotropic. Nanoparticle fillers are shown to offer some promise in improving the properties and stability of these nanoscopic patterns. Further simulation applications explore the alignment of liquid crystal molecules about nanoparticles in connection with the development of sensors based on the binding of biological molecules to liquid crystalline substrates. Segregation of nanoparticles in block copolymer systems was also investigated in connection with the self-assembly of metal nanostructures on diblock copolymer scaffolds.



**"Molecular Simulation and Characterization of Ultrathin Films and Nanoscopic Polymeric Structures: Departures from Bulk Behavior"**

*Kevin Van Workum,  
Prof. Juan J. de Pablo and Paul F. Nealey*

Department of Chemical Engineering  
and the Center for NanoTechnology  
University of Wisconsin - Madison

## Introduction

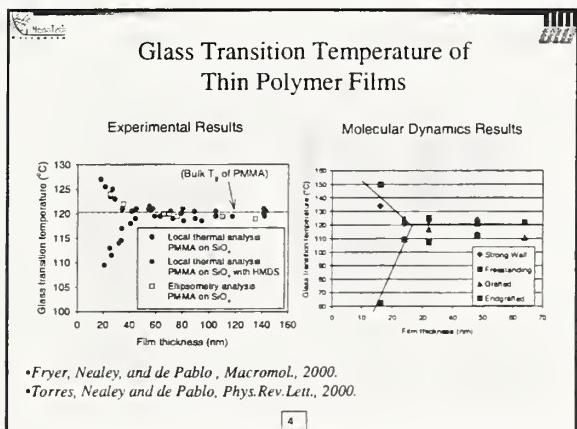
Understanding Structure-Property relationships at nanometer length scales is becoming increasingly important.

Three Distinct Applications:

- Mechanical Properties of Nanostructures and Nanocomposites
- Nanoparticles dispersed in Liquid Crystals
- Nanoparticles dispersed in Block Copolymers

Vital Research Tools:  
Molecular Modeling, Continuum Theory, Experiments

**Multiscale Modeling of the Mechanical Properties of Polymeric Nanoscopic Structures**



### Industry Goals

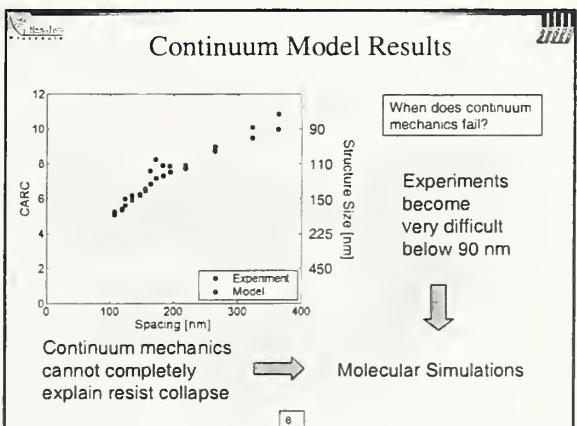
**2001**  
Linewidth (Dense Features) = 150 nm  
Aspect Ratio = 3.0 - 4.0

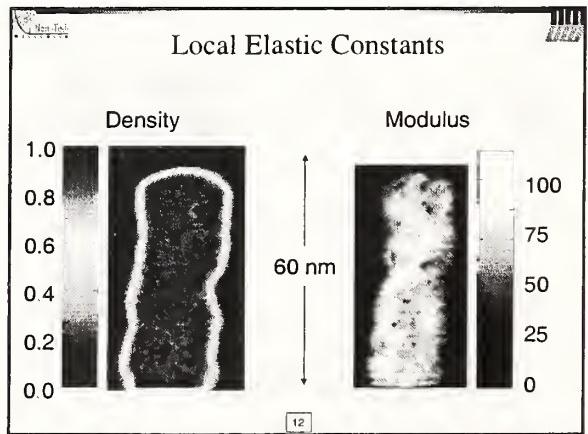
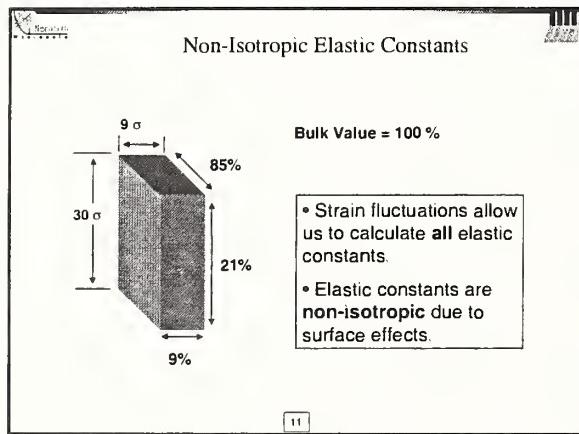
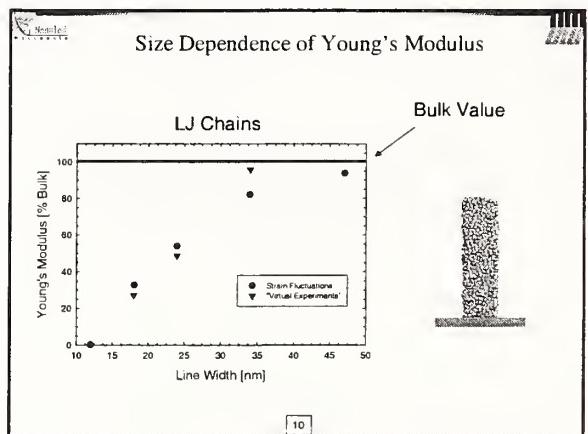
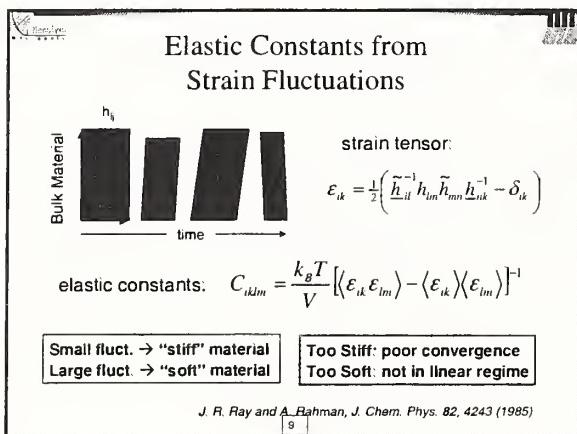
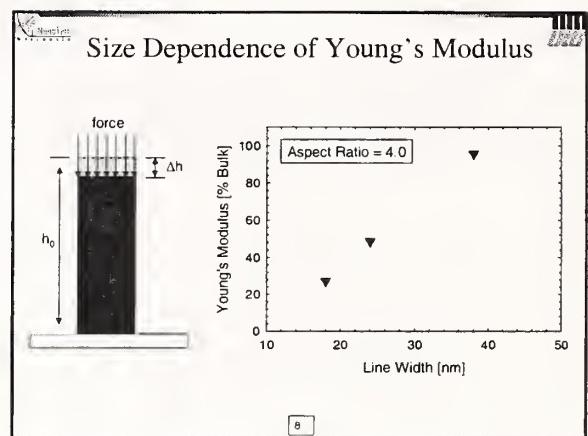
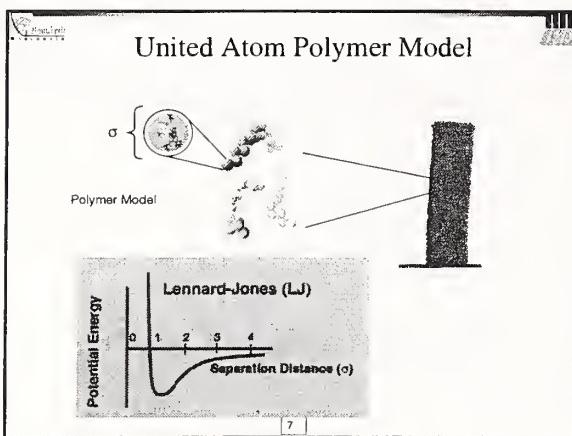
**2002**  
Linewidth (Dense Features) = 130 nm  
Aspect Ratio = 3.0 - 4.0

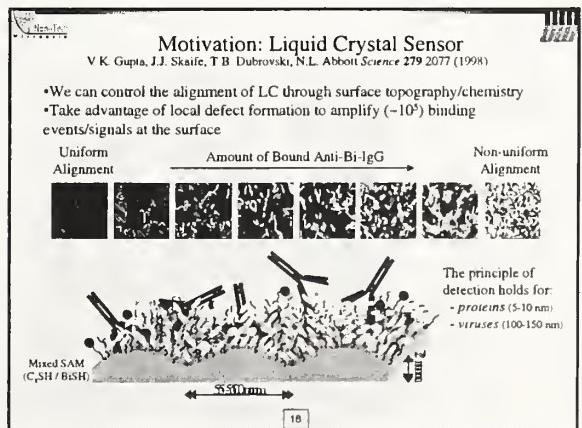
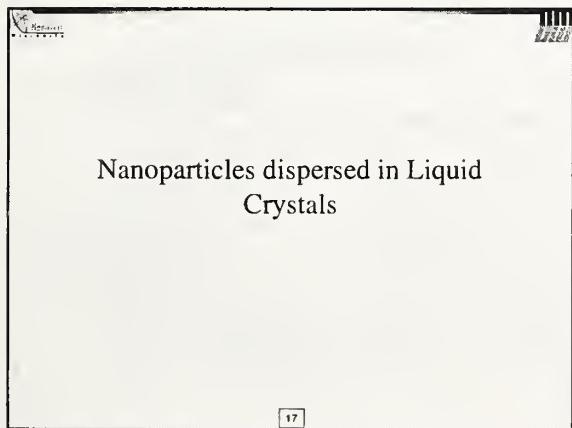
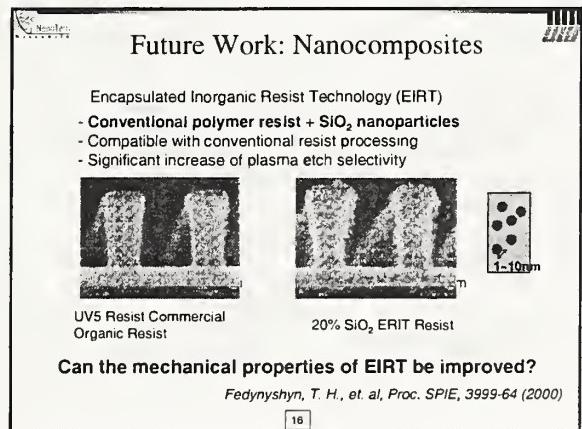
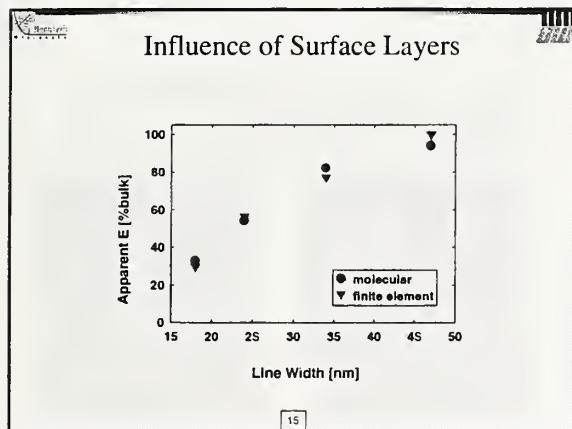
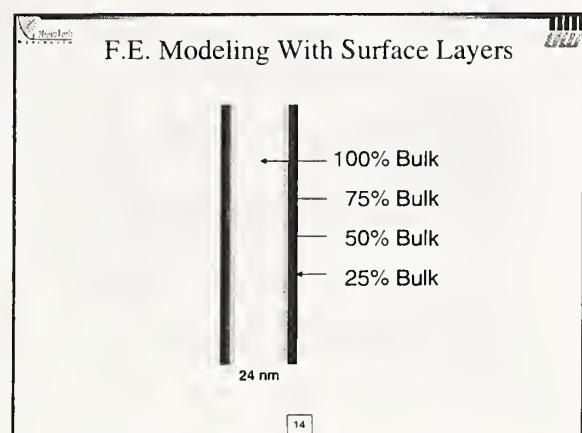
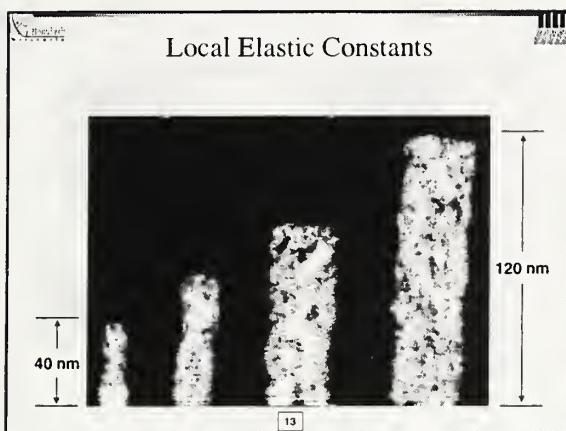
**2008**  
Linewidth (Dense Features) = 70 nm  
Aspect ratio = 3.0 - 4.0

300 nm

*At the 150nm or 130 nm node collapse of dense and semi-dense photoresist structures may limit our ability to stay on the SIA roadmap.*







## Multi-Scale Modeling

- Can we use models to anticipate which defect structure arises for specific systems?
- Can we use theory to establish quantitative relations between bound-particle concentration and shape and defect structure?
- Can we use these results to design optimal substrates?
- Can we make use of transient or time-dependent observations to infer additional information ?

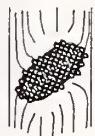
19

## Multi-scale Modeling

- use *detailed models* to study defect structure on nm length scales
- use *continuum models* to study defect structure and amplification over  $\mu\text{m}$  length scales



protein - 5nm long



virus - 145x100nm

20

## Different approaches to computational studies of LC

**Molecular Simulations:**

- Monte Carlo/Molecular Dynamics
- Gay-Berne, interatomic forces

**Advantages:**

- direct defect structure

**Disadvantages:**

- cover length scales ~0.2 – 5 nm
- short time scale

**Challenges:**

- Difficulties associated with sampling of phase space

**Approximate theories:**

- Onsager approach (rigid rods)
- *Continuum theory* (Frank free energy)

**Advantages:**

- mesoscale ~10nm – 1 $\mu\text{m}$
- longer time scale

**Disadvantages:**

- need input from experiment or molecular simulations
- approximate

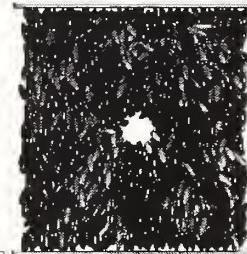
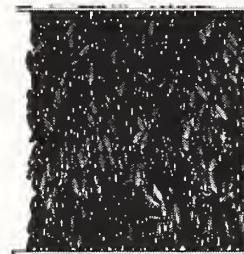
**Challenges:**

- Approximations and coarse-graining might introduce artifacts

21

## Simulation Details

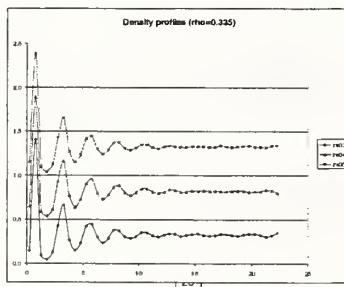
- Monte Carlo NVT simulations with a sphere fixed at (0,0,Zph)
- purely repulsive Gay-Berne potential (cut-off and shifted at the minimum) between LC, LC/surface, and LC/sphere
- repulsive potential results in homeotropic anchoring
- N=11,500, KT=1



22

## Confined System

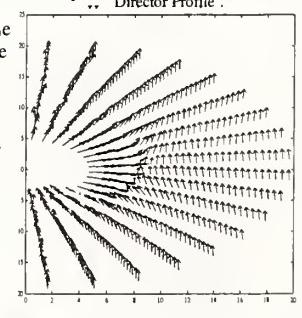
- line density and Zwall for a "bulk-like" region in the middle
- undamped oscillations in density profile seemed to be minimal for Zwall = 34



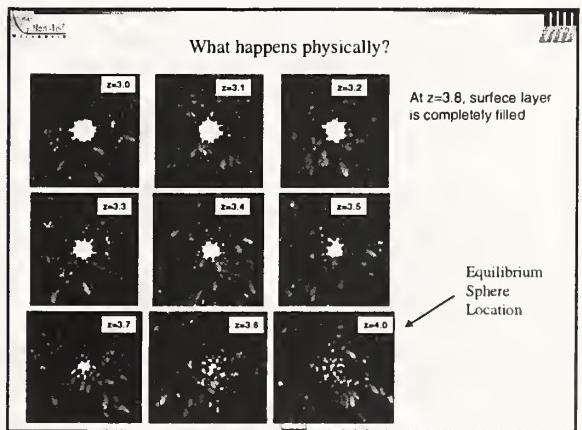
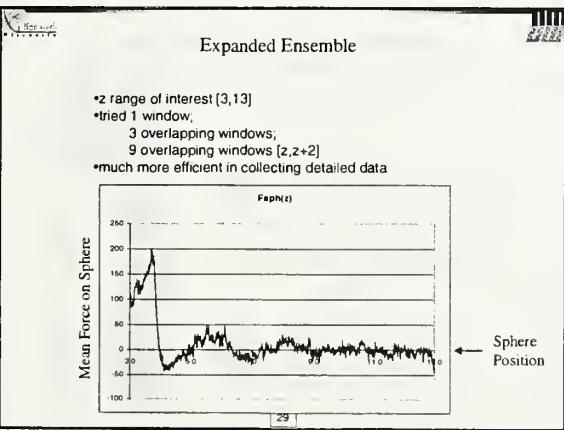
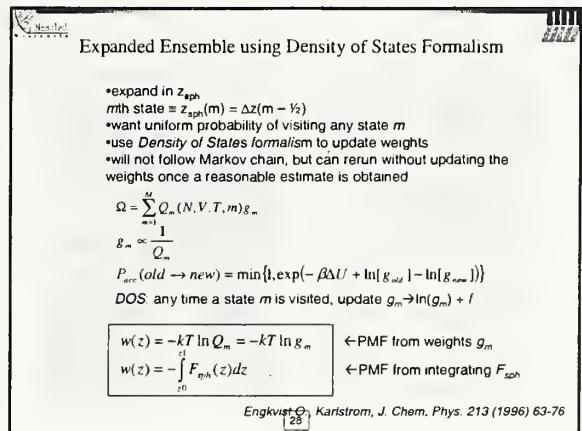
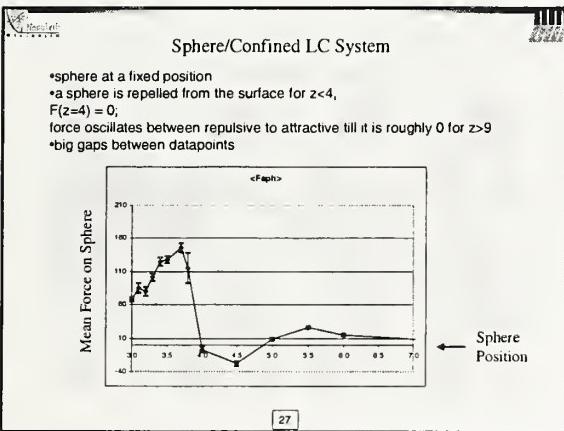
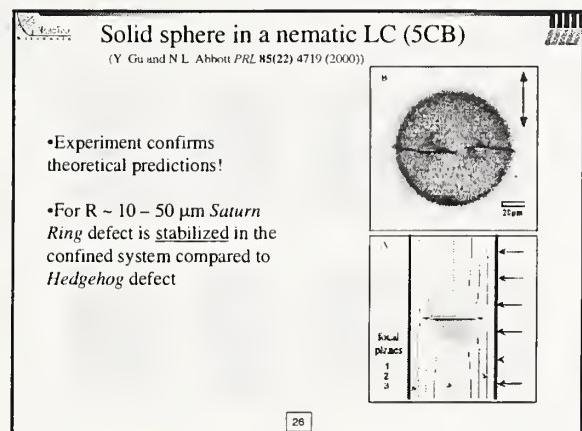
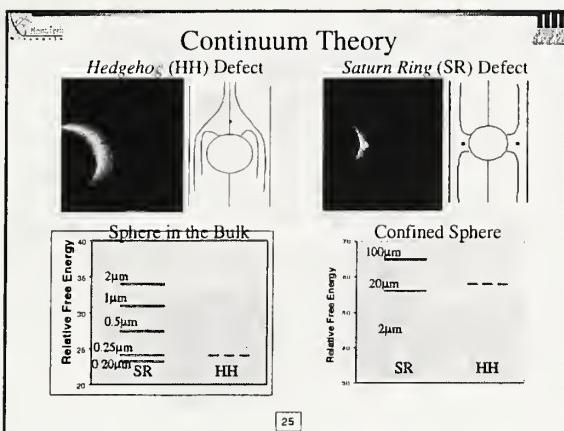
## Molecular Simulations of LC

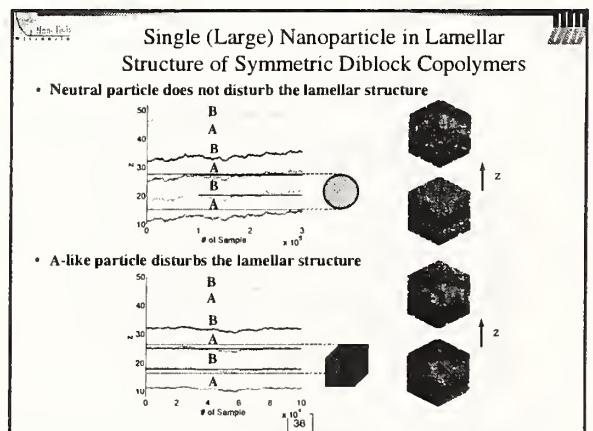
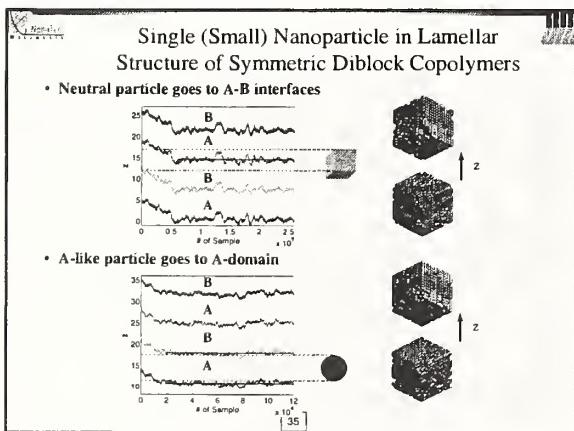
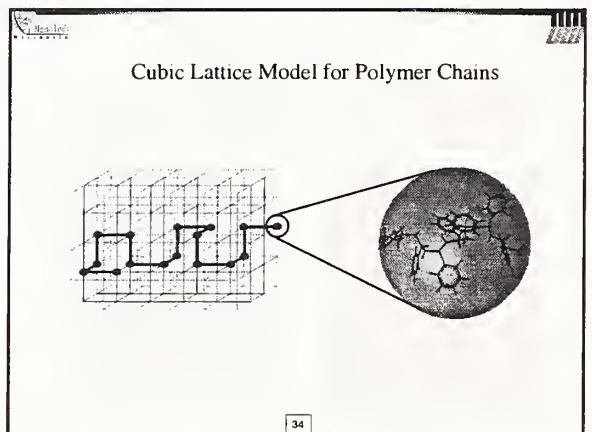
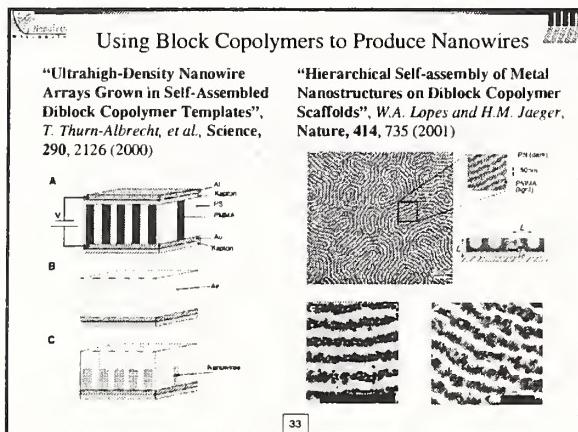
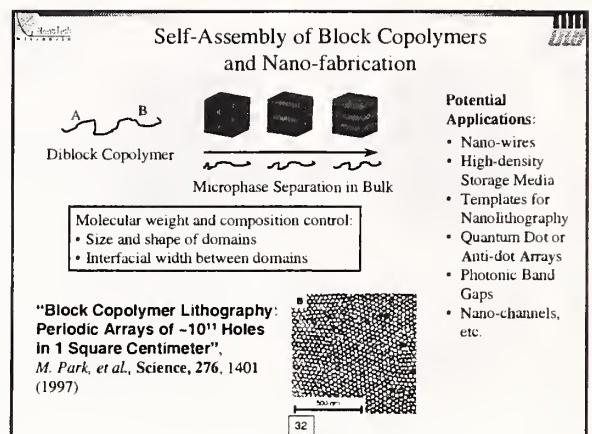
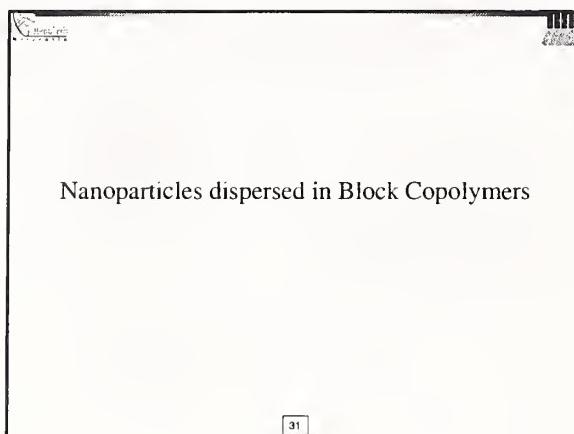
### Sphere in the Confined LC

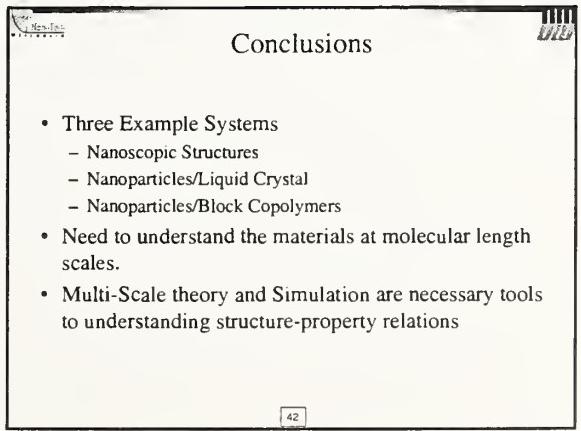
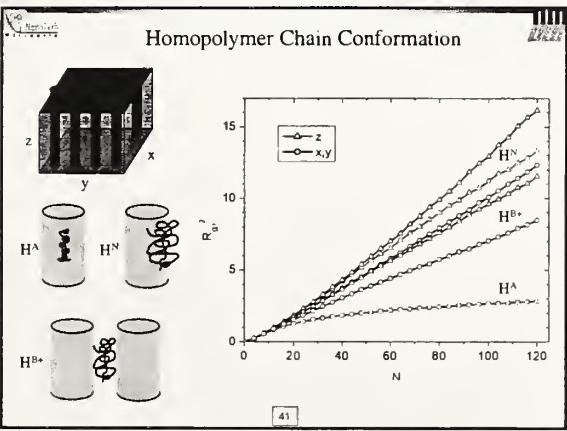
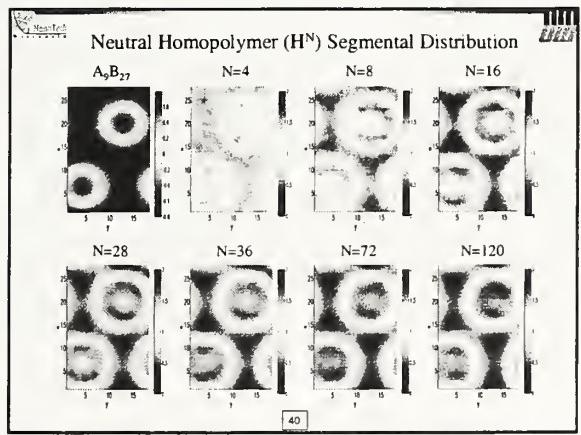
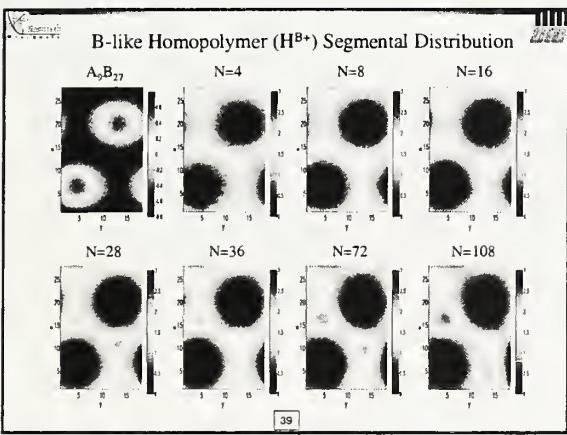
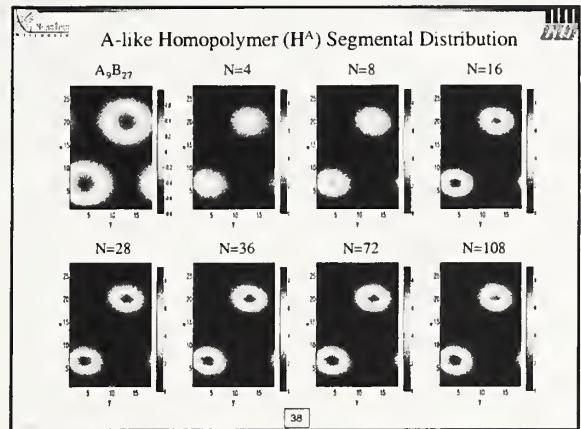
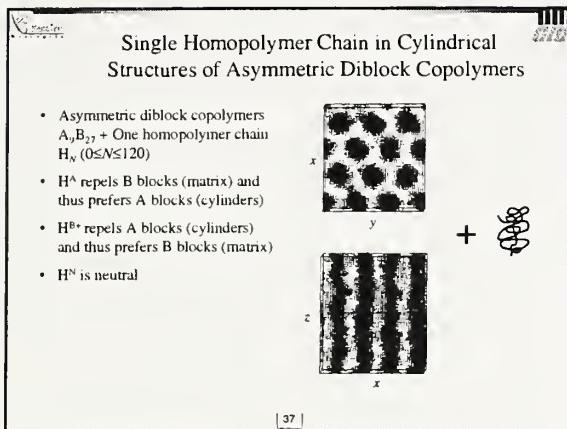
- Detailed representation of the system on the nm length scale
- Defect structure from intermolecular interactions
- Can investigate fundamental characteristics such as the influence of surfaces and molecular interactions on the type of defect that arises



24







## Acknowledgements

### Contributors:

- Qiang Wang – Diblock Copolymers
- Evelyn Kim – Liquid Crystals

### Group Members:

- Roland Faller
- Tushar Jain

### Advisors:

- Juan J. de Pablo
- Paul F. Nealey

43



10) Guoqiang Qian, “Applications of Plastic Nanocomposites”  
[\[PowerPoint\]](#) [\[PDF\]](#)

The main purpose of this talk was to provide ample evidence of the growing commercial importance of clay-filled polymer materials. Dr. Qian summarized numerous Nanocor products and the desirable property changes achieved by these products in the area of control of gas permeation, food packaging. The promise of these materials in the area of fire suppression and anti-sagging agents for fiberglass processing was also noted. The development of pre-dispersed pellets enlarges the number of users of these products.



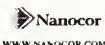
## APPLICATIONS OF PLASTIC NANOCOMPOSITES

Guoqiang Qian and Tie Lan



## OUTLINE

- NANOCOR PRODUCT INTRODUCTION
- Nano-NYLON 6
- Nano-MXD6: ULTRA-HIGH BARRIER
- Nano-POLYOLEFIN
- Nano-UNSATURATED POLYESTER
- SUMMARY



WWW.NANOCOR.COM

## PRODUCTS

- NANOMER® POWDERS
  - I.24TL, I.34TCN, I.42TC for Nylons
  - I.30P, I.44PA for Polyolefins
  - I.30E, I.28E for Thermoset Epoxy
  - Rhoespan® AS for UPE
- NANOMER® CONCENTRATES
  - C.30P, C.44PA, C.30PE, and C.44TPO for Polyolefins
- IMPERM™ NANOCOMPOSITES
  - High Barrier Packaging Applications



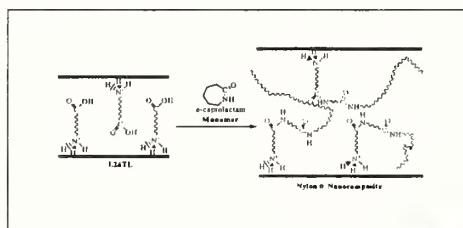
## TARGET SEGMENTS



WWW.NANOCOR.COM

## NYLON 6 NANOCOMPOSITES

### Nanomer I.24 TL



## NYLON 6 NANOCOMPOSITES

### COMMERCIAL SOURCES:

Bayer AG and Honeywell Eng. Polymers and Solutions

### COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS:

- 2-4% Nanomer® loading

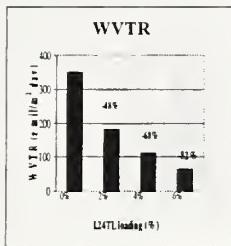
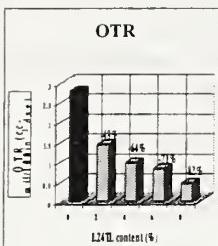
### FEATURES:

- 2-3X improvement in gas barrier
- FDA Approval for food direct contact
- Enhanced mechanicals
- Processes similar to neat nylon



WWW.NANOCOR.COM

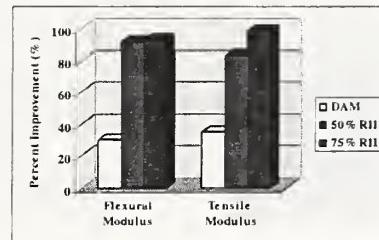
## BARRIER PROPERTIES OF NANO-PA6



Nanocor  
www.nanocor.com

## REDUCED SENSITIVITY TO HUMIDITY

Percent Improvement Nano-PA6 Versus Neat Nylon 6



Nanocor  
www.nanocor.com

## FILM APPLICATIONS

- Mono and multilayer
- Thin-wall structures
- Stiffness ideal for stand-up pouches
- Barrier/strength combo permits down-gauging

Nanocor  
www.nanocor.com

## FILM APPLICATIONS

End Products	Fabrication Method	Property Enhancements	Benefits
--------------	--------------------	-----------------------	----------

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## Imperm<sup>TM</sup> ULTRA-HIGH BARRIER NANOCOMPOSITES

- Nylon MXD6 based nanocomposite
- Easy processing for multi-layer and blend applications

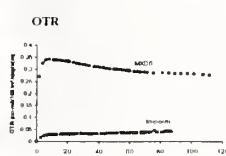
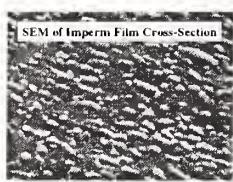
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## Imperm<sup>TM</sup> ULTRA-HIGH BARRIER NANOCOMPOSITES

- COMMERCIAL SOURCE:  
Nanocor
- FEATURES:
  - 3-SX improvement in oxygen barrier vs MXD6
  - Low haze
  - Rigid and flexible packaging
  - Multi-layer or blends with PET and PA6

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## Imperm™ ULTRA-HIGH BARRIER NANOCOMPOSITES



Nanocor  
www.nanocor.com

## Imperm™ BEER BOTTLE



- 16 oz. non-pasteurized
- Multilayer design with 5-10% Imperm™ layer
- OTR  
1-1.5 micro-L/day
- 100X versus PET
- CO<sub>2</sub> shelflife is 28 weeks

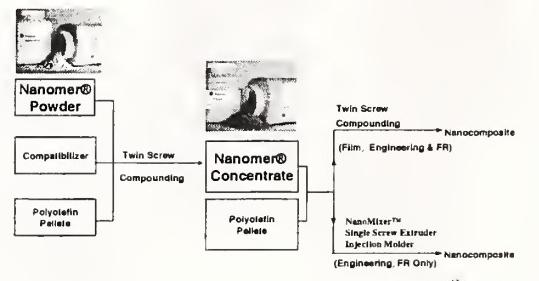
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## Imperm™ MULTILAYER PACKAGING

- Juice and other beverage package
- Paper coating/laminate
- PP/Imperm/PP Thermoform package
- PE/Imperm/PE Co-extrusion film
- PET/Imperm/PET film
- PA6/Imperm/PA6 film

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## POLYOLEFIN NANOCOMPOSITES



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www.nanocor.com

## POLYOLEFIN NANOCOMPOSITES

- COMMERCIAL SOURCES:  
Nanocor, PolyOne, and Clariant Corporation
- COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS:  
Nanomer, Nanomer Concentrates and Nanocomposites
- FEATURES:  
Enhanced mechanicals  
Enhanced barrier  
Synergy with FRs for flame retardancy

Nanocor  
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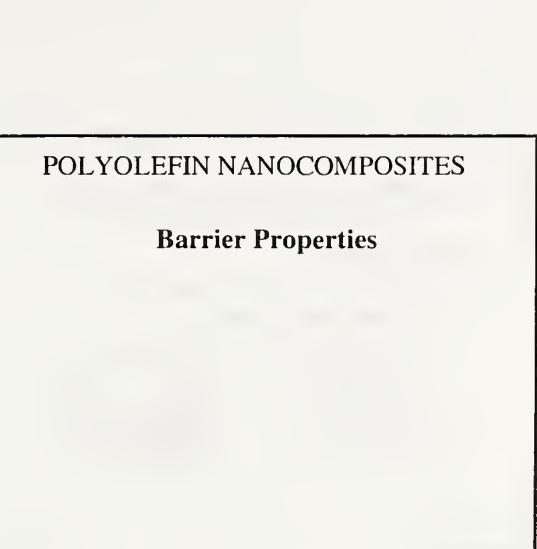
## POLYOLEFIN NANOCOMPOSITES

Masterbatch	Polyolefin Type	Nanomer Loading (%)	Tensile Strength (MPa)	Flexural Modulus (MPa)	Notched Izod (ft-lb/in)	HDT (C)
	Homo PP	0	32.0	1148	0.7	86.0
C-30P	Homo PP	6	38.0 (+19%)	2043 (+78%)	0.8	114 (+33%)
			19.5	780	9.8	71.0
C-44TPO	TPO	6	21.8 (+12%)	1228 (+57%)	9.8	84.7 (+19%)
			19.5	780	9.8	84.7 (+19%)

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## POLYOLEFIN NANOCOMPOSITES

### Barrier Properties



## FR APPLICATION OF NANOCOMPOSITE



Fundamental Study

Performance Screening

FR-Rating

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## FR APPLICATION OF NANOCOMPOSITE



### Reduction of Traditional FR Agents

### Reduction of Dripping

### Anti-Blooming

### Good Mechanical Properties

### Easy Processing

### Regulation Favorable

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## FR APPLICATION OF NANOCOMPOSITE

### Nanomer Synergy with Br-FRs

Components						
Homo-PP (wt%)	73.3	80	77	74	74	68
DBDPO (wt%)	20	15	15	15	15	15
Sh <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (wt%)	6.7	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Nanomer I.44PA (wt%)	0	0	3.0	6.0	(3.0)	(6.0)
Nanomer C.44PA (wt%)	0	0	0	0	6	12
UL-94 Rating	V-0	Fail	V-2	V-0	V-2	V-0

- Nanomer can be added in powder or concentrate forms
- 6wt% Nanomer can replace at least 6 wt% Br-FR
- Reduction of Blooming

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## FR APPLICATION OF NANOCOMPOSITE

### Nanomer Synergy with Mg(OH)<sub>2</sub>

Components				
EVA (wt%)	40	45	42	47
Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub> (wt%)	60	55	55	50
Nanomer I.30P (wt%)	0	0	3	3
UL-94 rating	V-0	Fail	V-0	V-0

- Nanomer can be added in powder or concentrate forms
- 3 wt% Nanomer can replace at least 10 wt% Mg(OH)<sub>2</sub>
- Easy Processing

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## FR APPLICATION OF NANOCOMPOSITE

### Mechanical Properties of Nano-FR Formulations

Properties	UL-94	Tensile Modulus (MPa)	Elongation @ Break	Specific Gravity
Regular FR EVA Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub>	V-0	533	30-40%	1.42
Nano-FR EVA Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub>	V-0	569	30-40%	1.34
Regular Br-FR PP DBDPO/ATO	V-0	2018	20-30%	
Nano-Br-FR PP DBDPO/ATO	V-0	2055	20-30%	

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## FR APPLICATION OF NANOCOMPOSITE

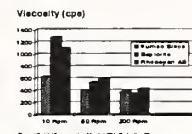
- Heavy duty PP electrical enclosure
- SG reduction from 1.35 to 1.16
- Flex modulus increased by 25%
- Maintain UL94 V-0 rating

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## UPE NANOCOMPOSITES

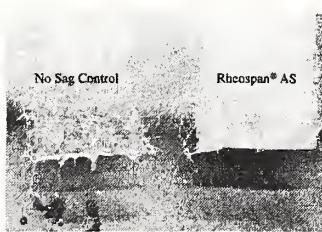
### • Rheospan® AS

Montmorillonite based anti-sag agent  
Easy processing and nano benefits



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## SAG CONTROL



 Nanocor  
www.nanocor.com

## UPE NANOCOMPOSITES

- COMMERCIAL SOURCE:  
Nanocor and Polymeric Supply Inc.
- COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS:  
Formulations containing 1-2% loading
- FEATURES:  
Enhanced chemical resistance  
Char formation for flame retardancy  
Sag control

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## BOAT ACCESSORIES

- UPE/fiberglass construction
- Reduced microcracking
- Reduced color fading
- Elimination of fumed silica

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## SUMMARY

- Nanocomposite plastics are commercial
- Barrier, reinforcement and flame retardancy drive most applications
- More applications are emerging

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## Acknowledgment

NIST

Amcol/Nanocor Management

Nanocor Technology Group





11) Eric A. Grulke, ‘**Production, Dispersion and Applications of Multiwalled Carbon Nanotubes**’ [\[PowerPoint\]](#) [\[PDF\]](#)

Dr. Grulke provides an overview of the many activities of the Advanced Carbon Materials center at the University of Kentucky, which specializes in the production characterization, and development of applications of multi-walled carbon nanotubes. The first part of the talk provided a contrast between the morphologies of the single and multi-walled nanotubes. It was made clear that these materials exhibit a variety of hierachal structures, depending on the conditions of their formation and that dispersion is a matter of degree because of these superstructures. The synthesis procedure for the mass production of multi-walled tubes was then discussed along with economic factors relevant to developing these materials. TEM images showed that these tube layers grow as a 'turf' from the substrate on which they are grown where the iron catalyst particles tend to concentrate near the tips of the growing tubes. The mechanism of the tip growth was identified as a fundamental problem in understanding and controlling the structure of these materials. The further essential problem of tube dispersal makes the functionalization of the tubes another essential problem. Progress on functionalization and the characterization of this functionalization was then summarized. Some essential properties of polymer materials filled with multi-walled tubes are considered. The viscosity depends strongly on shear in these non-Newtonian fluids and large changes in the conductive properties are found. Finally, a variety of processing techniques for forming nanotube filled polymers are reviewed and dispersion and property changes resulting from these various methods are characterized. Preliminary observations indicate that the concentration of the tubes has a large impact on the tendency of the particles to cluster and the resulting properties.



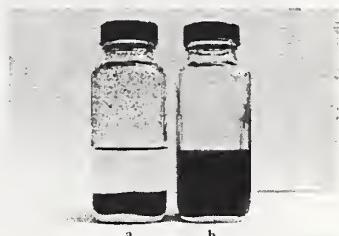
## MWNTs Dispersed in Various Media



Bridging the Gap... NIST 1

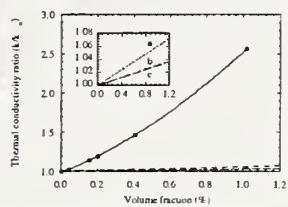
## Example of MWNT Dispersion

Nanotubes quickly settle without use of a proper dispersant; b. The very stable nanotube nanofluid produced by this method is thus suitable for thermal conductivity measurements and future heat transfer applications Poly( $\alpha$ -olefin)



Bridging the Gap... NIST 2

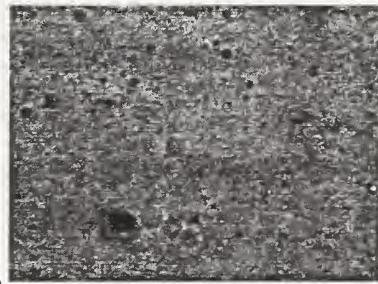
## Dispersion with High Thermal Conductivity



Bridging the Gap... NIST 3

## 2.5 wt % MWNTs in Poly( $\alpha$ -olefin).

High shear dispersion This sample has high thermal conductivity.



Bridging the Gap... NIST 4

## Dispersion during Melt Blending

- MWNTs in polystyrene
- Haake rheometer, 180 C, Dow 666, 30 min, constant torque @ 30 min, 50 rpm
- Consistent flow properties, physical properties (tensile, resistivity) in bulk tests
- *What is the dispersion quality?*



Bridging the Gap... NIST 5

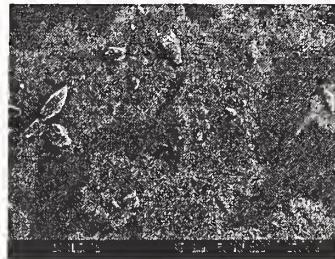
## SEM Analysis

A possible dispersion challenge due to mechanical entanglements between MWNTs



Bridging the Gap... NIST 6

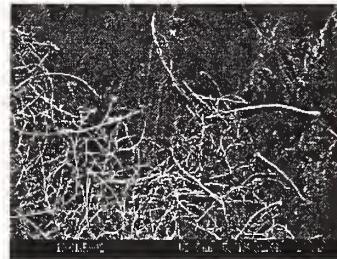
### PS Melt Blending. 15 min.



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7

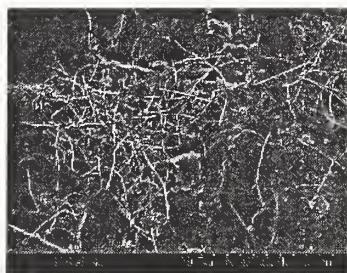
### PS Melt Blending. 15 min.



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8

### PS Melt Blending. 30 min.



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9

### Optical Microscopy



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10

### Melt Blending. MWNTs in PS.

5 minute sample. Large fragments of the MWNT "mat" are not dispersed. Toluene suspension. Logo is 50  $\mu$  wide.



ViewCast

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11

### Melt Blending.

10 minute sample. MWNTs in PS.

Toluene suspension. Completely dispersed material. Logo is 20  $\mu$  wide.



ViewCast

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12

### Melt Blending.

10 minute sample. MWNTs in PS.  
Toluene has evaporated. Logo is 50  $\mu$  wide.



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13

### Melt Blending.

30 minute sample MWNTs in PS.  
THF has evaporated. Logo is 50  $\mu$  wide

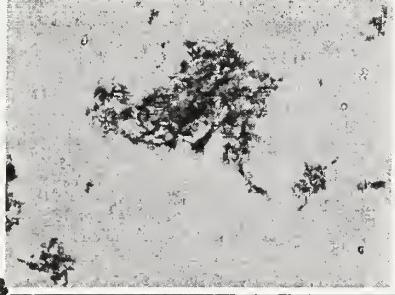


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14

### Melt Blending.

30 minute sample MWNTs in PS.  
Toluene suspension. Logo is 50  $\mu$  wide



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15

### Melt Blending Dispersion Summary

- The MWNTs are dispersed with respect to bulk properties
- Multiple step dispersion: fragmentation of "Astroturf", expansion, individual tubes
- Evidence that some agglomerates exist that are mechanically entangled
- Potential problems in fiber spinning, high surface gloss



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16

### Surface Chemistry

- Distinct differences on solvent removal from MWNT solutions
- Drying from toluene gave agglomerates of 25 microns in size, while drying from THF gave much smaller agglomerates
- Surface chemistry (with control by solvent, polymer, surfactants, etc) may be useful in developing aggregate structures



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17

### Solution Rheology Samples.

VGB 78 (B). 0.1 wt% MWNTs in 20% PS in toluene  
Undiluted. A. Karicherla.



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18

### Solution Rheology Sample.

VGB 78 (B). Diluted 1:5. 20wt% PS A. Karicherla



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19

### Solution Rheology Sample.

VGB 63 (C). Diluted 5.1. 20 wt% PS A. Karicherla



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20

### Re-entanglement (Mechanical)

- Agglomerates that appeared to be physically entangled will redisperse when the MWNT concentration is reduced
- Consistent with statistical approach to percolation, i.e., as the concentration increases, a distribution of particle agglomerates form



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21

### Conclusions. Melt Blending.

- MWNT mat fractures to dense fragments, which then "expand" and can disperse
- 30 min. melt blending samples show few dense fragments, but do have "expanded" structures that are mechanically intact
- There is a MWNT length distribution
- Continuous phase affects particle-particle associations, particularly when an air-fluid interface is present



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22

### Conclusions. Ultrasonic Dispersion

- Distribution of MWNT lengths
- Few expanded structures, but long dispersion times used to attain constant viscosities
- Dilutions show that most of the MWNTs can be individually separated



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23

### Particle Comminution

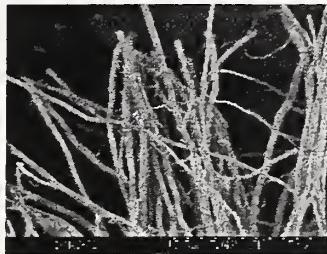
- Ultrasonics
- Melt blending
- High shear mixing
- High shear nozzle
- mechanical



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24

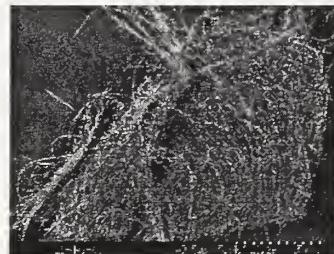
### As-Produced MWNTs



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25

### As-Produced MWNTs.



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26

### As-Produced MWNTs



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27

### Mechanical grinding



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28

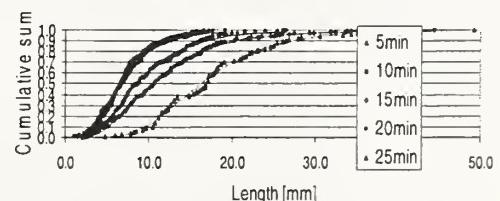
### Ground MWNTs



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29

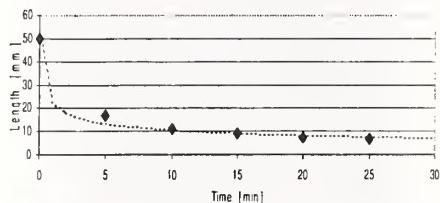
### Length Reduction via Ultrasonics



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30

## Power law comminution model



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31

## Conclusions. High Shear Dispersions.

- Very efficient dispersion, but lengths are < 10 microns
- Still achieve “percolation” limits, but these should be based on different lengths from the starting material



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32

## Composites and Solutions Processing



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# Carbon Composite Materials



## Composites with Nanotube Fibers

Typical composite materials issues:  
Fatigue, high temperature, chemical resistance, weathering

Typical composite materials failure mechanisms:  
Fiber pullout, stress concentration at fiber ends

Typical composite processing issues:  
Dispersion, orientation, conventional processing

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3

## Accomplishments

- Dispersion via ultrasonics and polymer melt processing techniques
- Orientation in shear fields, leading to 2-D, 3-D structures
- Adhesion between matrix and MWNTs is an issue: functionalization should help



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4

## Commercial Forming Methods for Nanotube Composites

- Pultrusion: applicable for yarns
- Filament winding: MWNT-containing fibers (2)
- Compression molding: extrusion and pelletizing (3)
- Hand lay-up: thin films fabricated (2)
- Hand spray-up: spray coatings (3)
- Reactive RIM: suspending agents (2)

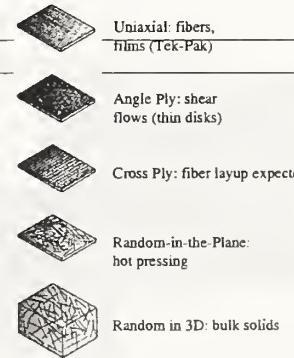
0=science fiction, 2=demonstrated, 4=ready for market



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## Demonstrated Nanotube Orientation Methods



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## Composites: New Work

- Functionalization: improved dispersion in liquids, tethered chains for improved interfacial adhesion, *in situ* end group functionalization
- Mechanical testing of improved nanotube composites
- Engineering science models of processing methods



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## Solution Processing

- Ultrasonic mixing
- Individual dispersion
- Surfactants for simple fluids
- Neat MWNTs for viscous polymer solutions

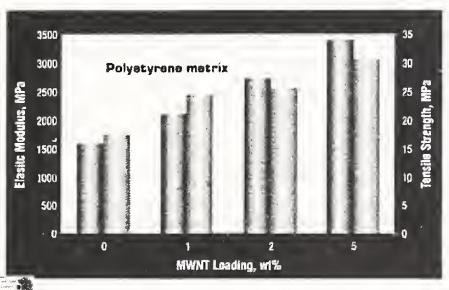


- MWNTs in film spun from PS solution. 30 microns diameter



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## Tensile strength and modulus



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## Melt Processing

- Mixing and dispersion into pitch and polymer melts
  - Polystyrene, High Impact PS, Polypropylene, ABS
  - Petroleum Pitch, Coal-derived Pitch
  - Furfural Resins
- Thin polymer film and fiber formation
- Nanotube alignment in shear field
- Use of traditional polymer processing equipment
  - Industrially viable processing techniques



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## Shear Mixing of MWNTs

- Haake Polylab Shear Mixer
  - 50 gram charge
  - 0 – 25 wt% fiber

### Mixing Energy



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11

## Dispersion of MWNTs

- Determination
  - Optical microscopy
  - SEM and TEM
  - 0 - 10 rating



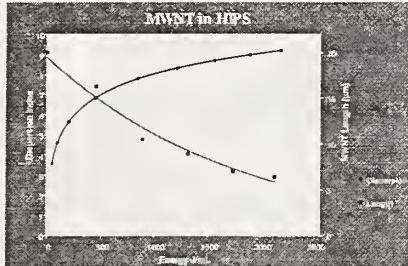
- Polypropylene matrix
- 2.5 vol% MWNT



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## Mixing Energy for Dispersion



Possible Route to Functionalization!

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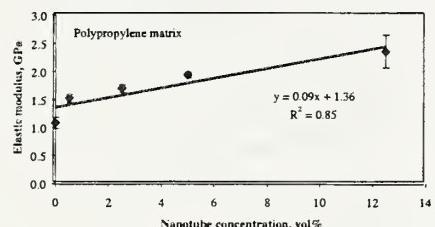
## Melt Processing

### Thin Polymer Films

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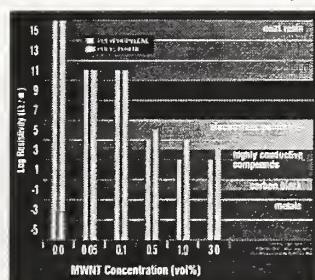
## Tensile Properties of Films. PP



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## Surface Resistivity



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## Conductive Plastics

10%



1%



- Current technology
  - carbon blacks
  - 10-15% loadings
  - loss of mechanical properties

- MWNT Composites
  - 0.1 - 1 wt% loadings
  - low percolation threshold

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## Melt Processing

### Polymer and Pitch Fibers

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## Polymer Fibers with Aligned MWNTs



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## Carbon Fiber with 1wt% MWNT



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## Carbon Fiber with 2wt% MWNT



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## Benzyne Functionalization of MWNT

- Benzyne addition
  - on sidewall of MWNT
- Composite polystyrene films
  - Improved dispersion
  - Improved matrix-nanotube adhesion
- Results
  - Good dispersion
  - Reduction in film brittleness
  - Improved flexibility over blank films and unfunctionalized MWNT composites

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## Computational Studies of the Mechanical and Tribological Properties of Carbon Nanotubes. (Sinnott)

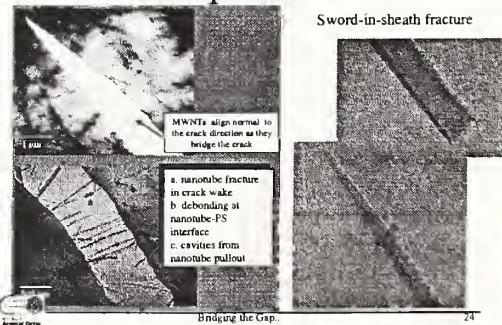
- Results for indentation of multi-walled nanotubes on surfaces:
  - Mechanism is the same as for the single-walled nanotubes
  - MWNTs are stiffer than comparably sized SWNTs
- Shearing of Carbon Nanotube Bundles Between Sliding Surfaces
  - Movement of the nanotubes is sliding, no rolling is predicted
- Horizontal bundles of single-walled nanotubes
  - little change in frictional forces with sliding
  - forces do not vary with changes in pressure
- Vertical bundles of single-walled nanotubes:
  - Strong dependence of frictional forces on applied pressure for capped nanotubes
  - little dependence for attached nanotubes



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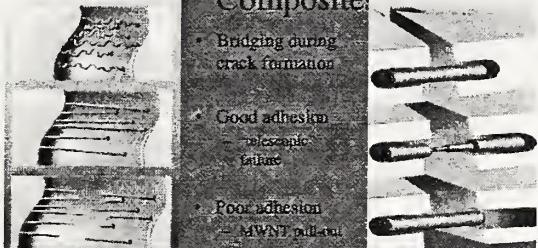
## NT-Composite Failure



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## Failure modes of MWNT Composites



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## Sizing

- Commercial graphite fibers having sizings that improve fiber/matrix adhesion
- We have been developing sizings for MWNTs in various commodity polymers

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## Production, Dispersion and Applications of Multiwalled Carbon Nanotubes

Eric A. Grulke

University of Kentucky

egrulke@engr.uky.edu



05/30/2002

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1

## NSF MRSEC Advanced Carbon Materials Center

- Eric Grulke
- Janet Lummel
- Mark Meier
- Zhi Chen
- Robert Haddon
- Marit Jagtoyen
- Rodney Andrews
- Susan Sinnott, U of Fl
- John Anthony
- Kozo Saito
- Jack Selegue
- Bruce Hinds
- Madhu Menon
- Leonidas Bachas



05/30/2002

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2

## Nanoparticle Morphology and Polymer Applications

Theme: nanoparticle morphology has scientific and economic value [this is not a new concept]

- Manipulate the production process to develop different morphologies
- Manipulate dispersion, orientation and interphase region



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3

## Outline

- Synthesis of ordered carbons: emphasis on MWNTs
- Functionalization of MWNTs
- MWNTs applications in polymer systems and fluids



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## Synthesis of Ordered Carbons

1. What can we make?

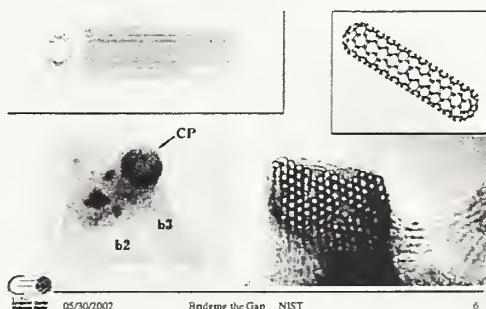


05/30/2002

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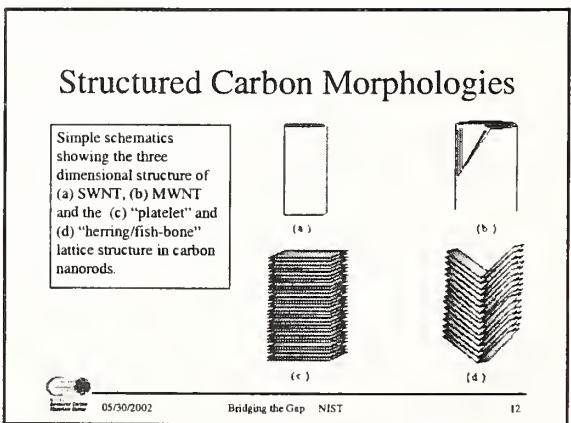
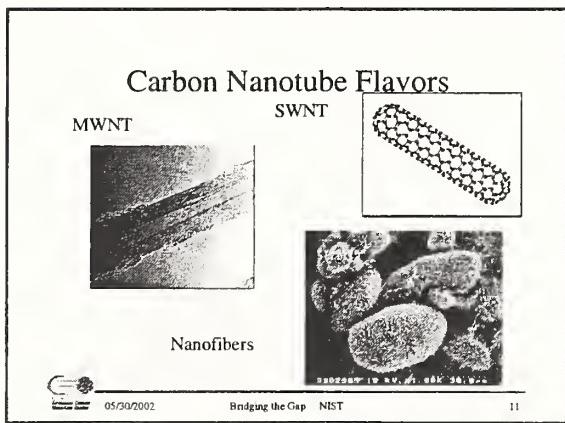
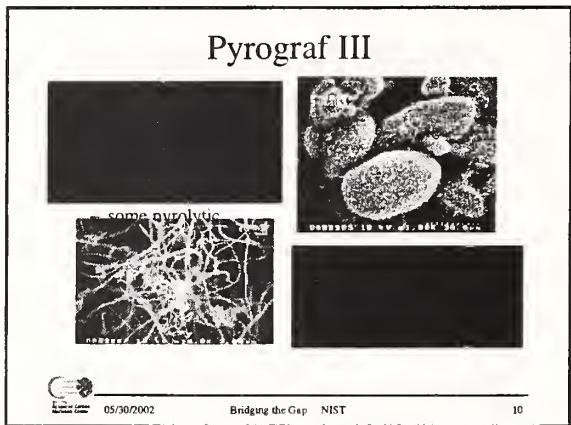
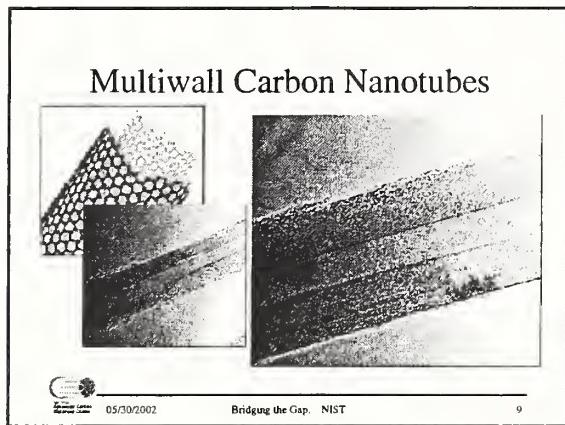
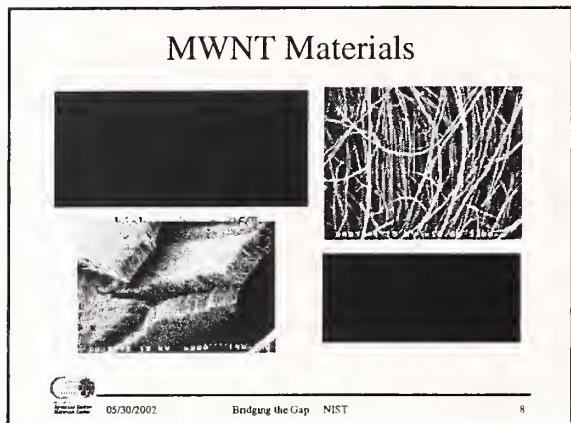
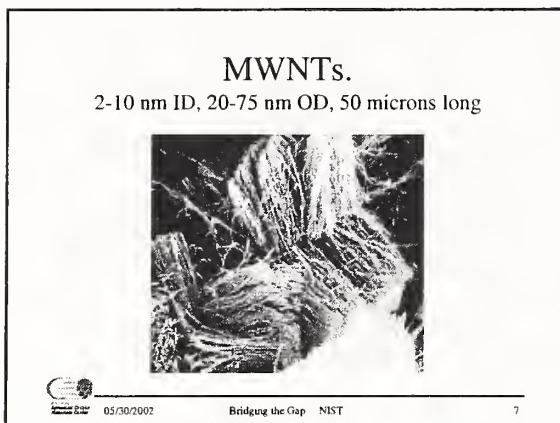
## Single Wall CNTs 1 nm diameter, 1-10 microns long



05/30/2002

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6



## Platelet Structure: catalyst support?



TEM images of the filamentous carbon growth from Ni/Ta<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>. M. A. Keane



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## Synthesis of Ordered Carbons

- SWNTs, MWNTs and other ordered carbons
- Promote comparison of different carbon materials
- Determine growth mechanisms, rate-limiting steps for synthesis



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## Synthesis of Ordered Carbons

- What can we make?
- What will it cost?



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## Production Methods

- SWNTs: arc process (Carbolex), laser/graphite target, gas phase (HIPCO/Rice)
- MWNTs: CVD process, high quality tubes, scalable process, reproducible morphology (ACMC/CAER and others)
- Diffusion flame: MWNTs grown from methane on metal screen (Saito)
- Platelets: heterogeneous catalysis (Keane)



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## CVD Process Economics

*Study by Gene Harlacher, Conoco, CAER visiting scientist, 12/99.*

- MWNT cost is sensitive to labor, energy, catalyst cost and efficiency, HC cost and yield
- Fe is a low cost catalyst now
- 10<sup>6</sup> kg/year gives cost of \$20/kg MWNT
- Conclusion: ferrocene-based CVD process is a reasonable choice for extensive research

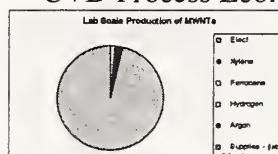


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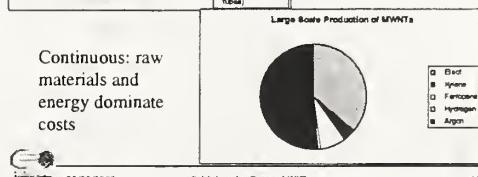
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## CVD Process Economics-Details



Batch: labor is a major portion of the cost



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## Synthesis of Ordered Carbons

- What can we make?
- What will it cost?
- How do we make more?



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## Scale-up of Carbon Nanotube Production Systems

- Quantity & Quality
- Bench scale, pilot plant, commercial plant
- Morphology control
- Recycle of gases, conversion and yield, choice of carbon source, catalyst recycle, solids recovery, solids post processing



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## CVD Methods for Nanotube Synthesis

- Transition metals and their alloys: Fe, Co, Ni
- Prepared nanoscale metal oxide particles  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{NiO-CoO}$  on supports
- Catalyst thin films on silica

Floating catalyst—  
organometallic precursors  
form metal nanoparticles *in situ*



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## Two Step Synthesis

- Gas flow into quartz tube: carbon source,  $\text{H}_2$ , Ar
- Sublime ferrocene into reaction zone and prepare *in situ* catalyst on reactor surfaces
- Xylene feedstock decomposes over Fe nanoparticles to produce CNTs
- Vary T, C:H ratio to evaluate effect of MWNT growth over rxn. time

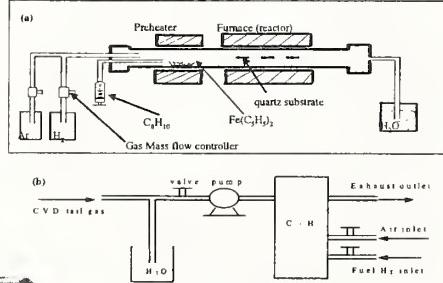


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## Two-Step Synthesis Reactor



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## Analytical

- Reactor tailgas: HP 5980 ac, Series 2) on 21 gas bag for  $\text{C}_m\text{H}_n$ , Rosemount 400A Hydrocarbon Analyzer for total carbon ( $\text{CH}_4\text{-He}$  for calibration)
- TEM: JEOL 2000FX TEM ( $\text{LaB}_6$  at 200 kV)
- SEM: Hitachi SN-3200 at 5 kV



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## Results

- Growth mechanism
- Effects of reactor temperature and time on MWNT production
- Effect of C:H ratio
- Chemistry of xylene degradation over Fe nanoparticles

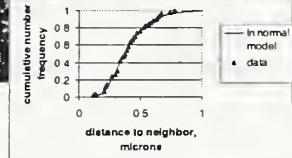
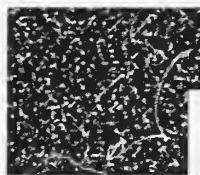


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## Step 1. Floating Catalyst Production



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## Typical MWNT Growth

1



Some variation in  
MWNT mass on  
various reactor  
surfaces



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## Tip Growth

(a)  
Root ends show no  
Fe nanoparticles at  
fracture surface



Tip ends are  
capped with Fe  
nanoparticles

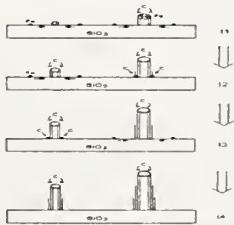


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## Tapered MWNTs



MWNTs taper  
from the root end  
(~ 30 nm) to the  
tip end (~15 nm).  
Fe may diffuse on  
surface to MWNT  
base.

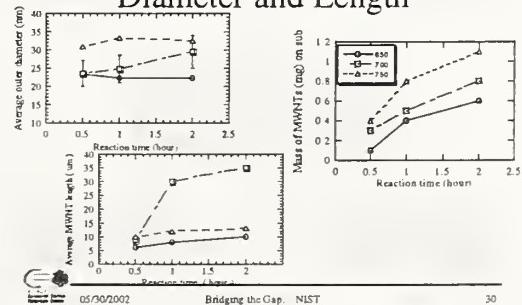


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## Temperature vs. MWNT Diameter and Length



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## Effects of Temperature

- Tube coarsening is occurring increasing with time at 700 C, while 650 C, 750 C samples have nearly constant tube diameters
- MWNT mass increases with temperature

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## Effects of C:H Ratio

- Decreasing the C:H ratio results in
- Higher purity MWNTs
- Lower external diameters, and
- Lower standard deviations of the diameter distributions
- H<sub>2</sub>:Ar ratio of 0.25:1 gives 8% of MWNTs with D < 10 nm, and some double wall tubes

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## Effect of C:H Ratio

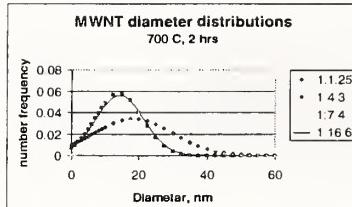
Gas mixture	C:H ratio	Length ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Average OD (nm)	Purity
0 % H <sub>2</sub> -Ar	1: 1.25	2 (1)	18.2 (12.3)	< 50 % NT
5 % H <sub>2</sub> -Ar	1: 4.3	10 (3.0)	14.1 (6.86)	~ 70 % NT
10 % H <sub>2</sub> -Ar	1: 7.4	35 (31)	24.4 (8.83)	~ 90 % NT
25 % H <sub>2</sub> -Ar	1: 16.6	6 (1.8)	14.4 (7.09)	~ 95 % NT

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## MWNT Distributions



Some distributions may be multimodal, i.e., 1:16.6

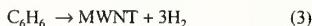
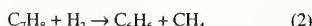
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## Xylene Degradation.

Simplified kinetics, dilute carbon source, no mass transfer limitations



Few hydrocarbons with C < 6 are observed in the tailgas



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## Hydrocarbons in the Tailgas

Feed has 3750 ppm xylene, 0.1 H<sub>2</sub>:Ar, 700 C

C <sub>n</sub> H <sub>x</sub> Fraction (%) (Concentration, ppm)	C <sub>1</sub> H <sub>6</sub> + C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>10</sub>	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>12</sub>	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>16</sub>
5 min	3.47 (5 ppm)	0.00 (0)	0.54 (1)	7.98 (12)	87.45 (135)
15 min	5.38 (11 ppm)	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)	7.99 (17)	86.63 (182)
30 min	4.49 (21 ppm)	0.20 (1)	0.45 (2)	15.28 (73)	79.58 (379)
60 min	2.93 (23 ppm)	0.09 (1)	0.29 (2)	12.53 (99)	83.39 (657)
90 min	2.90 (42 ppm)	0.07 (1)	0.27 (4)	11.13 (161)	85.63 (1240)
120 min	2.59 (38 ppm)	0.08 (1)	0.26 (4)	11.88 (172)	85.02 (1234)



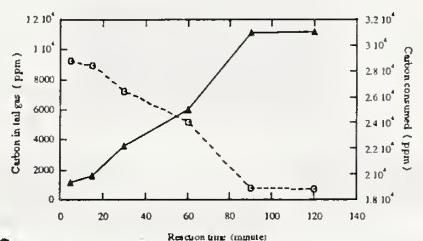
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36

## Catalyst Deactivation

30,000 ppm xylene in feed



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## Conclusions

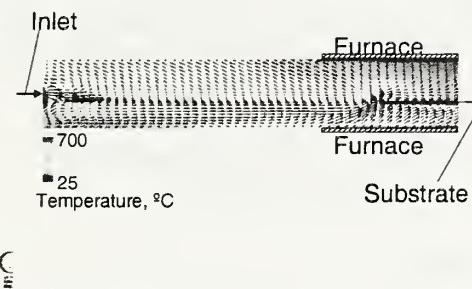
- Tip growth is critical mechanism
- Temperature is important for catalyst coarsening, deactivation
- Xylene, toluene conversions may be rate-limiting; benzene and smaller molecules are present in low mass fractions

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## Computational Fluid Dynamics



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## Mass Transfer of C through Fe Nanoparticle



Left: Concentration levels of C.



Right: Flux of C on nanosphere surface.

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40

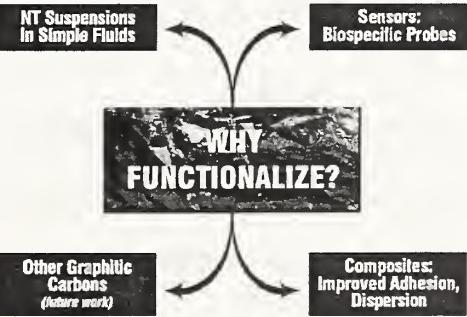
## CVD Process Summary

- Practical experience: scaled from 1 cm to 10 cm tube in 2 steps; from 2 to 6 g/2hr run over one year
- Computational fluid mechanics: gas flows and concentrations
- Overall and component balances: conversion, yield, mechanism(s)
- Catalyst particle model: NT growth, limiting rates
- Needs/Directions: multiple scale model, metal nanoparticle detection/control, "morphology" meter

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41



## Functionalization: MWNTs

1. What can we make?



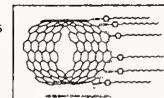
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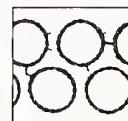
43

## Functionalization Methods

Tube Ends



Tube Sides: dichlorocarbene, benzyne, ion bombardment



Functionalization via ion bombardment, Ni and Sinnott



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44

## Functionalization: New Work

*Haddon, Meier, Anthony*

- Transfer dichlorocarbene method from SWNTs to MWNTs; benzyne method from fullerenes to MWNTs
- Attach oligomer and polymer chains to MWNTs
- Attach conductive links and ion-specific sites



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45

## Functionalization

- Fullerene work shows that “defect sites” are more reactive to functionalization
- Feedstocks used in CVD synthesis control defects
- MWNTs have been functionalized and incorporated into composites



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46

## Current Research Directions

### Functionalized Carbon Materials

- Additions: halogenation, halomethylation,cycloaddition, Grignard
- Cleaning: CO<sub>2</sub>, steam, graphitization
- Novel Carbons: fulleroids, baskets and test tubes
- Functionalized Soluble Graphenes
- Characterization: FFF



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47

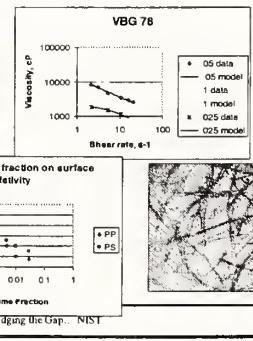
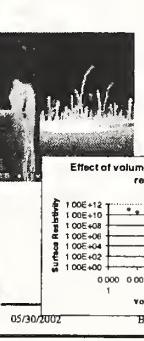
## MWNTs in Polymer Systems

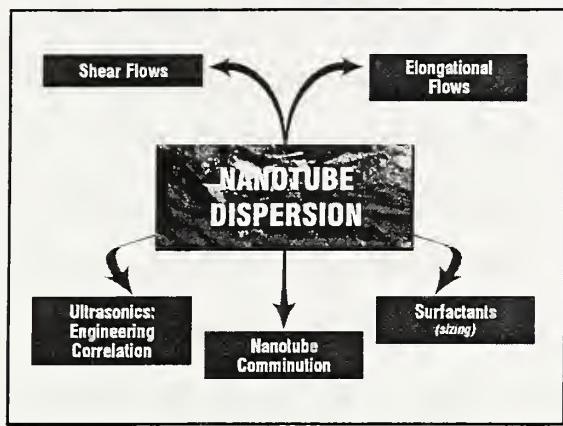


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48







12) Ken McElrath and Tom Tiano, “Achieving Conductive Polycarbonate with Single Wall Carbon Nanotubes” [\[McElrath Powerpoint\]](#) [\[McElrath PDF\]](#) [\[Tiano PowerPoint\]](#) [\[Tiano PDF\]](#)

Dr. McElrath and Dr. Tiano give an emphasis on the single-walled carbon nanotubes that is complementary to the presentation of Dr. Grulke that emphasized the multi-walled tubes. The single wall materials should have remarkable strength, electrical conductivity and electrical conductivity and are characterized by a rather precise molecular structure. The realization of this potential is limited by the tendency to form rope like structures and thus there is a great need to improve the dispensability to fully realize the potential of this type of material. Progress on the development of single wall tubes as commercial materials were summarized along with the intense scientific interest generated in the course of the development of this exceptional material.

After the introductory material, the presenters focused specifically on the problem of nanotube dispersal and which solvents were favorable for this. The importance of ultrasonic processing in effective dispersion was also emphasized. The most dramatic success in dispersion was found and characterized for single wall tubes dispersed in polycarbonate. Substantial improvements in electrical and thermal conductivity were found for polar polymer matrices where appreciable dispersion of the tubes was possible. The presentation was concluded with a summary of the many areas where single walled nanotubes have promising commercial applications.



## Carbon Nanotechnologies, Inc.

### Achieving Conductive Polycarbonate with Single Wall Carbon Nanotubes

Ken McElrath

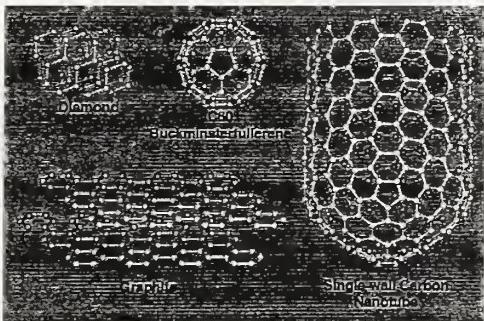
NIST Workshop; Bridging the Gap Between Structure and Properties in Nanoparticle-Filled Polymers  
Gaithersburg, Maryland

30-May-02

## Agenda

- What are single wall carbon nanotubes?
- Why are they useful?
- CNI plans for SWNT commercialization
- Presentation by Tom Tiano, Research Partner with Foster-Miller

## Forms of Carbon



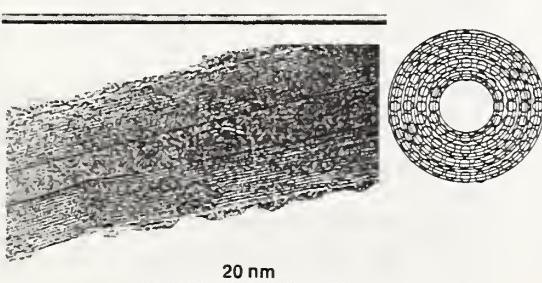
## Types of Nanotubes

- Defined by the number of walls they are made of

Single-wall (SWNT)  1 nm

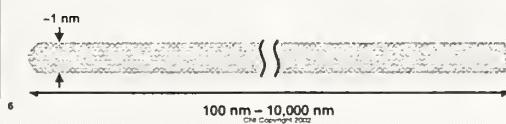


## SWNTs have Tremendous Accessible Surface Area

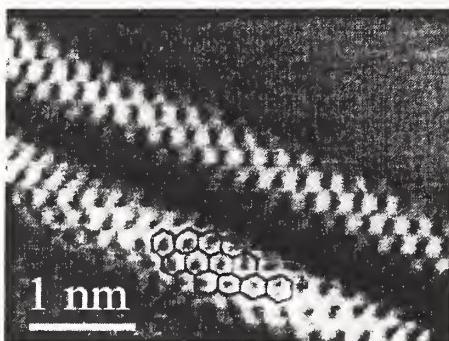


## SWNTs: The Perfect Material

- Single-wall Carbon Nanotubes (SWNTs) are unique:
  - Fullerene molecules
  - Perfect structures
  - Polymers of pure carbon
- SWNTs have extraordinary properties:
  - Strength (~100x steel)
  - Electrical conductivity (~Copper)
  - Thermal conductivity (~3x Diamond)
  - Combination of the above



### SWNTs are Perfect: Each Atom in its Place

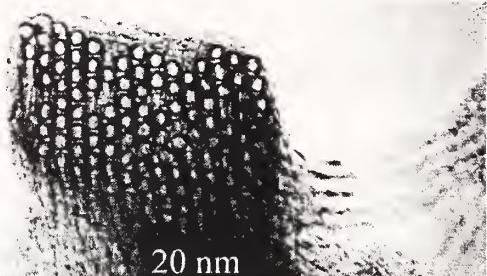


7

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### Ropes of Single-Wall Carbon Nanotubes

- Caused by strong Van der Waals forces between sidewalls
- Enables self-assembly...but makes dispersion challenging



8

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### SWNTs can be Customized

- In most applications, raw SWNTs will need to be customized
- This customization can be precisely controlled using everyday organic chemistry
  - Open ends
  - Closed ends
  - Sidewalls



9

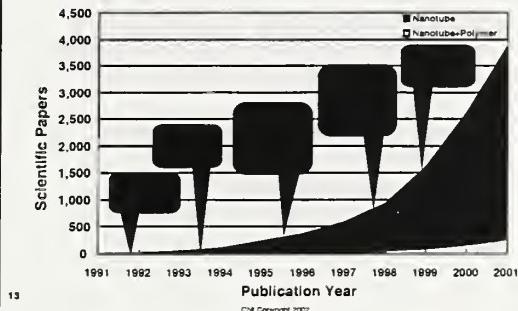
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### Dramatic Proof of SWNT-Polymer Interaction



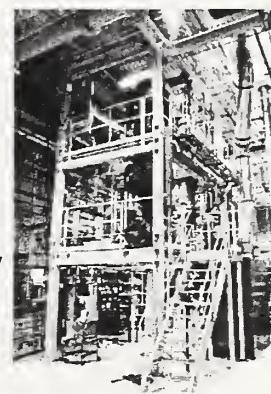
### Smalley and CNI launch Carbon Nanotechnology

- SWNT availability spurs research and commercial development
- Hundreds of companies world-wide use CNI SWNTs



13

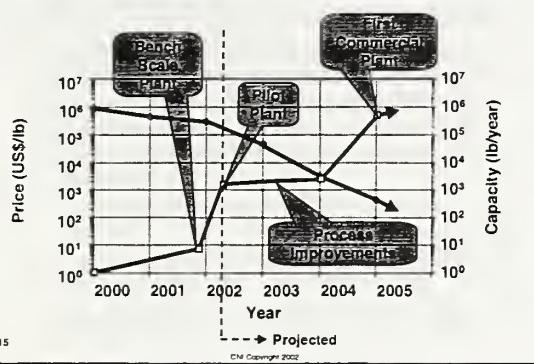
### CNI: taking SWNTs from the lab to Industry



14

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### As Scale of Supply Increases, Price Decreases



15



16

### CNI's Value

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## Dispersing Single-Wall Carbon Nanotubes in Polycarbonate to Achieve Electrical Conductivity

Thomas Tiano - Foster-Miller, Inc.

Ken McElrath and Ken Smith - Carbon Nanotechnologies, Inc.

Presented to

National Institute of Standards and Technology

May 29 & 30, 2002

### Objective

- ❖ Develop processes for preparing single wall carbon nanotube (SWNT) composites in which the SWNTs are highly dispersed in the polymer matrix.
- ❖ Assess electrical and thermal conductivity and mechanical properties.
- ❖ Target applications in the electronics industry.

### Single Wall Nanotubes Properties

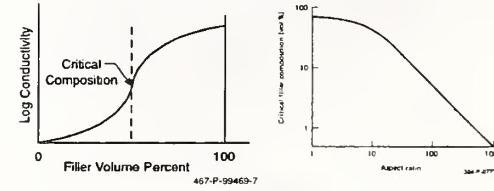


Aspect Ratio	1000:1
Specific Gravity	1.3
Electrical Res.	$10^{-4} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$
Therm. Cond.	1750-5800 W/m·K
Young's Modulus	650 GPa - 1 TPa
Tensile Strength	65 - 300 GPa
Tensile Elong.	20%

Adequate dispersion is required to take advantage of these properties in multi-phase systems.

### Electrical Critical Composition

- ❖ Critical composition is the filler volume loading at which a conductive network is created (see schematic).
- ❖ Critical composition is highly dependent on aspect ratio (see schematic).



### Impediments to Dispersion of SWNTs in Nanotube Composites

- ❖ Strong Van der Waals interactions
  - ♦ SWNTs form ropes (bundles of tubes) ranging from 10 to 100 nm in diameter
  - ♦ Ropes are very difficult to de-bundle
- ❖ Low surface energy
  - ♦ Low affinity for organic solvents and matrices
  - ♦ Extremely high critical length

### Processing Steps

- ❖ Disperse SWNT into polar polymer (assisted by polar solvent)
- ❖ Remove and recover solvent
- ❖ Process composite into parts and specimens
- ❖ Perform electrical, thermal and mechanical assessment
- ❖ Perform “let-down” studies for processability

## SWNT Dispersion Polymer and Solvent Selection

- ❖ **Solvent Requirements**
  - ♦ Good dispersant for SWNTs
  - ♦ Good solvent for polycarbonate
  - ♦ Low boiling point
- ❖ **Polycarbonate grades**
  - ♦ Lexan 101-112 (multi-purpose)
  - ♦ Lexan HF1110 (high-flow)

## “Solubility” for SWNTs in Organic Solvents

Solvent	“Solubility” (mp/L)	Solvent density (g/cc)	Solubility (wt percent)	Boiling Point °C
1,2-dichlorobenzene	95	1.306	0.0073	180
chloroform	31	1.492	0.0021	61.5
1-methylnaphthalene	25	1.001	0.0025	243
1-bromo-2-methylnaphthalene	23	1.418	0.0016	291
n-methylpyrrolidinone	10	1.028	0.0010	202
dimethylformamide	7.2	0.944	0.00080	153
tetrahydrofuran	4.9	0.889	0.00055	67
1,2-dimethylbenzene (o-xylene)	4.7	0.870	0.00054	145
pyridine	4.3	0.978	0.00044	115
Carbon disulfide	2.6	1.266	0.00021	46
1,3,5-trimethylbenzene	2.3	0.864	0.00027	164

Bair, Mickelson, Bronikowski, Smalley, Tour, Chem. Comm., 2001:193-194

## SWNT Dispersion Ultrasonic Processing

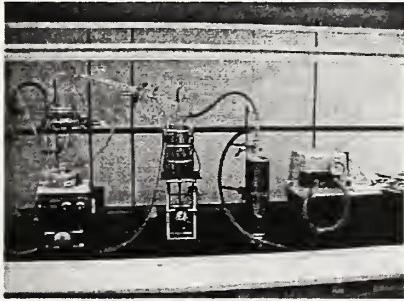
- ❖ Dissolve polymer into solvent
- ❖ Add SWNT to solvent and insonify for 30 minutes
- ❖ High amplitude insonification induces cavitation
- ❖ Cavitation bubbles nucleate on nanotube clusters
- ❖ De-agglomeration occurs when cavitation bubbles collapse on SWNT bundles
- ❖ Implosion of voids is driven by reversal of pressure in the sound wave

## SWNT Dispersion Ultrasonic Processing

- ❖ Branson titanium wedge tip ultrasonic welding horn
- ❖ 40 kHz frequency
- ❖ 2:1 amplitude gain
- ❖ Branson 940B power supply
- ❖ 700W continuous power
- ❖ Adjust amplitude to 45%

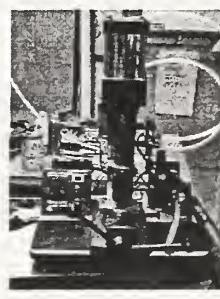


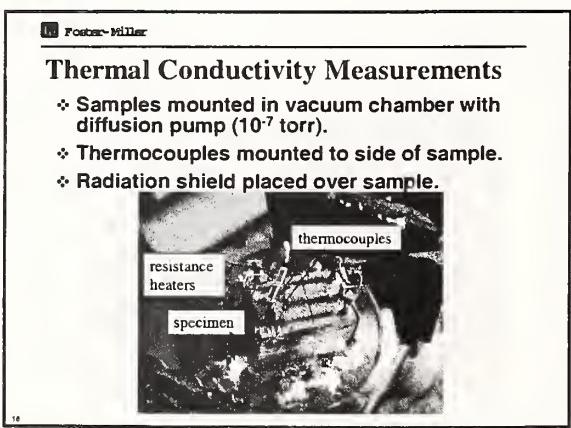
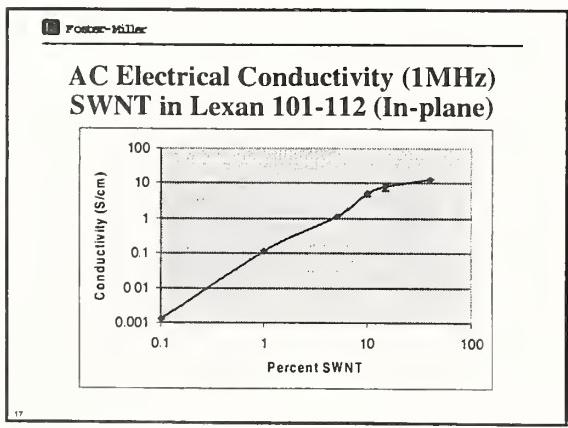
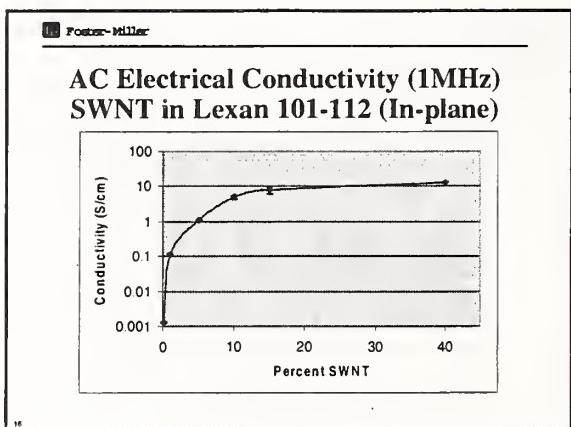
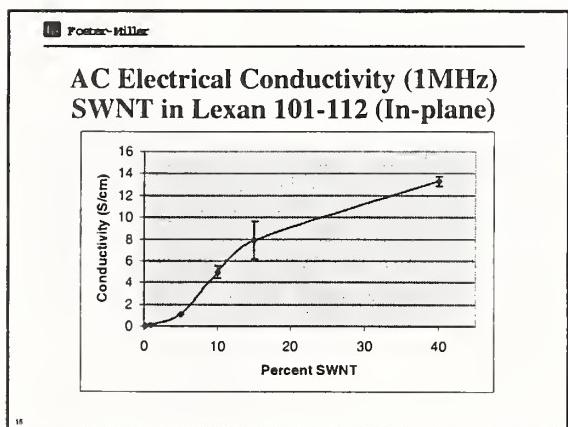
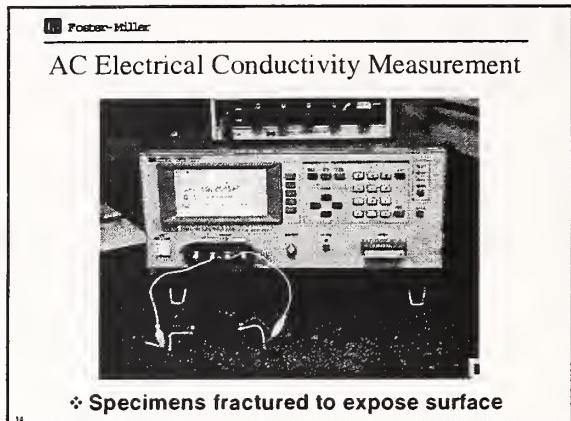
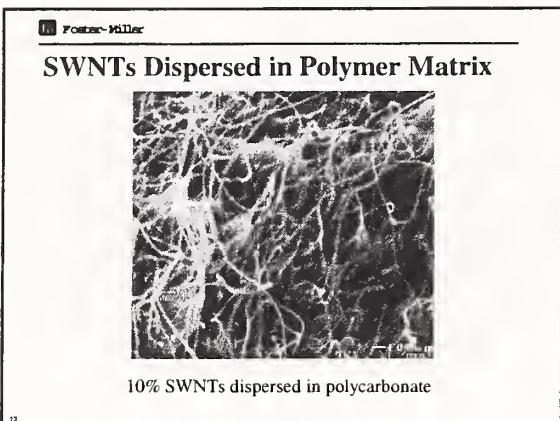
## SWNT Solvent Removal



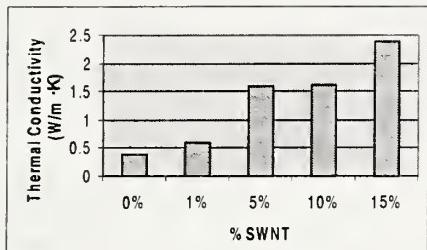
## SWNT composite processing

- ❖ Develop conditions for processing composite feedstock into useful parts
- ❖ Injection molding and compression molding
  - ♦ both require relative high pressure (120 psi & 2000 psi respectively)





### Room Temp. Thermal Conductivity SWNT in Lexan 101-112 (In-Plane)



### Further Research in Thermoplastics

- ❖ Continue to investigate SWNT dispersion techniques to increase conductivity
- ❖ Obtain more data for electrical and thermal conductivity and mechanical properties
- ❖ Further develop composite processing techniques
- ❖ Investigate polymer "let-down" procedures
- ❖ Investigate different thermoplastic polymers

19

20

### Potential Applications of SWNT-Filled Thermoplastics

- ❖ Electromagnetic interference protection
- ❖ Electrostatic discharge materials
- ❖ Electrostatic paint substrates
- ❖ Lightweight thermal management materials
- ❖ Thermoplastic die attach

21



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# Bridging the Gap between Structure & Properties in Nanoparticle-Filled Polymers

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